

WEATHER
Showers
And Warmer



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NAZIS MURDER 47 ALLIED PRISONERS IN GERMANY

All Britain Aroused as Eden Reveals Atrocity



Signing on the Line for Price Control: The Upper West Side Consumer Council has set up tables along Broadway with petitions urging Congress to pass the Price Control Act without crippling amendments. The Council is one of 100 groups in the city celebrating Price Control Week. Several hundred signatures were obtained on the corner of 94th St. and Broadway yesterday.
—Daily Worker Photo.

Allies Capture Gaeta, Flank Mountain Line

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Communist Convention Opens Today

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To Climax 4-Day Session

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Allies in Myitkyina Outskirts

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As Foe Faces Annihilation

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Audience Boos Town Hall—Digest Tie-Up

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Anger and indignation swept the British Isles last night when Foreign Secretary Anthony Eden revealed in the House of Commons that the Germans had shot down in cold blood at least 47 Allied air officers, allegedly trying to escape from a prison camp near Dresden, Germany.

The list of slain officers comprised 25 of the RAF, six Canadians, three Australians, two New Zealanders, three South Africans, one French, four Poles, two Norwegians and one Greek. No Americans were included.

The episode took place nearly two months ago, on March 26, but was concealed by the Nazi government.

The news became known only four days ago when a Swiss official, designated to look after British prisoners, visited the camp at Sagan, 50 miles from Dresden where 3,000 British prisoners are held.

When questioned in Parliament, Eden said the British government considers the Hitler regime itself responsible for the atrocity.

It is not at all clear whether the fliers actually tried to escape, or whether this is just the excuse for shooting them.

In any case, under international law, prisoners of war can only be disciplined, but not shot, in case of attempts to escape.

BRITAIN ANGERED

The outrage was reported to have brought home to the British people the fact that Germany is by no means respecting international law, although it demands as much for its own captives.

As in the Soviet Union, Poland, the Balkans and elsewhere, the Nazi regime has dropped all pretense on the eve of the invasion.

The supposed good treatment of British—and American prisoners—by contrast with the treatment of Russians and other European peoples has completely disappeared.

Recognition of the enemy's true character was registered in black headlines in the London evening papers, plus demands for a full investigation, and retribution upon the Hitlerite leaders.

Atrocities upon American soldiers by the Japanese war-lords in the infamous "March of Death" from Bataan were recalled in London.

American observers were quick to note the connection between this latest event and the defense which the 30 accused seditionists were making at the Washington trial.

Lawrence Dennis, ideological leader of the accused German agents, had tried to make it appear on Thursday that Hitler merely wanted "a free hand in Europe," but had nothing against the British and American people.

SWISS REPORT

According to late data from authoritative circles in London, the Swiss reports say that 76 officers were involved in the supposed escape attempt. Fifteen were recaptured, 14 are reported still at large, while 47 were shot.

"The government was profoundly shocked by this news and has urgently requested the protecting power to demand from the German government a full and immediate report of the circumstances wherein these men met their deaths, and explanations of its failure to report the facts at once to the protecting power," Eden told Commons.

Article 50 of the prisoners-of-war convention provides that prisoners who are recaptured before getting back to their own forces or leaving the territory occupied by the captors are liable only to disciplinary punishment. Article 54 states that imprisonment is the most severe punishment which may be inflicted.

Communist Parley Opens Today, Browder Keynoter

The historic national convention of the Communist Party of the United States opens this morning at 10 a. m. at Riverside Plaza, 253 W. 73d St. About 400 accredited delegates and 1,000 invited guests will be present. The convention will be formally opened by William Z. Foster, national chairman of the Party. It will be climaxed by a final, public session at Madison Square Garden Tuesday at 7:30 p. m. sharp.

Today, with organization of the convention completed, within an hour, Earl Browder, secretary of the party, is scheduled to begin his keynote address, the main political report, at 11 o'clock.

Delegates were urged to be present by 10 a. m., scheduled starting time for the convention. Those not yet registered were asked to come by 9 a. m.

POLITICAL RESOLUTION

At the Saturday afternoon session the first point on the agenda will be a report of the committee on officers' reports and resolutions by its chairman, Eugene Dennis, member of the political bureau of the party. Discussion will follow on Browder's report and the main political resolution. The latter has been discussed by party clubs and district organizations for the past two months. During the past two weeks district conventions of the party have discussed the resolution, proposed amendments and endorsed its main points.

Tonight's session will be devoted to a continuation of discussion and action on resolutions, including those on reconversion, the South, veterans' legislation, wages and hours and the fourth term.

Roy Hudson, member of the political bureau, will report for the constitution committee at the Sunday morning session. More than 100 amendments to the proposed constitution have already been submitted to party organizations throughout the country.

At the Sunday evening session the convention will hear addresses and greetings from fraternal delegates from other countries, who will describe the anti-Axis struggle in their homelands.

Delegation meetings will take place during the Monday morning session of the convention.

Highlight of the Monday afternoon session will be a report on the 25th anniversary of the Communist organization of America by Robert Minor, assistant secretary of the party. Speeches by "old-timers," honor guests at the convention—including Pat Cuth, Dan Slinger, Sam Hammersmark, Bill McKie, James Reid, Fred Biedenkapp, Yetta Land, Alfred Knudson and others—will follow.

National officers and members of the national committee will be elected at the conclusion of the afternoon session.

All of Tuesday will be devoted to convention committee meetings.

The final, public session of the convention will be held Tuesday night at Madison Square Garden with Earl Browder as the principal speaker.

Argentina Arrests 5 Leading Officials

MONTEVIDEO, May 19. — The Argentine crisis is at the boiling point, arrest of former minister of finance, Dr. Federico Pinedo and four other officials attests. Dr. Pinedo was charged with helping plan a national silent sit-down strike for June 7, four days after the anniversary of the June 4 coup last year.

The widespread underground activity to protest the pro-fascist Farrell usurpation of the government last year on June 7 involves all sections of the people, from workers to financiers. The arrest of Dr. Pinedo, along with former Radical deputy Ernesto San Martino, Col. Roberto Bosch, Col. Adalid and ex-police officer, Vallergo, is another indication of Farrell's fear of this growing resistance.

You Are Cordially Invited—

THE EVENT—Public session of the 1944 national convention of the Communist Party of the U.S.
THE PLACE—Madison Square Garden, 50th St. and Eighth Ave.
THE TIME—Tuesday evening, May 23, at 7:30 sharp.
SPEAKERS—Earl Browder and other prominent figures.
ENTERTAINMENT—A revue featuring Josh White, Laura Duncan, Jack de Merchant and Bernie Bern.
ADMISSION—50 cents to \$2.00.
WHERE OBTAINABLE—At Workers Bookshop, 50 E. 13 St.

Hillman Rips 'Fantasy' Of PAC Big Spending

By DOROTHY LOEB

CHICAGO, May 19.—Sidney Hillman, CIO Political Action Committee chairman, today dismissed as "fantastic" the outcry about big money spending used by defeated Dies

in highlighting the convention session by presenting a certificate for outstanding work against racism to Jack Kroll, ACW member who is president of the Ohio CIO. Under Kroll's leadership, the council did a big job in preventing tension between Negro and white and insuring maximum utilization of Negro manpower in war industry, Carey said.

Delegates adopted a resolution deploring the fate of Jewish victims of Nazi brutality and demanding abrogation of the British white paper, limiting immigration into Palestine. Many other resolutions relating to inner industry and union affairs were adopted, including one raising Hillman's salary from \$12,500 to \$15,000 and that of Jacob Potofsky, general sec'y-treas. from \$7,500 to \$10,000 were also approved.

Hillman told the thousand ACW delegates that CIO's Political Action Committee never tried to make a secret of its activities because it has nothing to hide.

When the Department of Justice wanted information, everything was made available and the committee stands ready to do the same for any authorized House or Senate committee, he explained.

"Of course we have challenged Dies," he added. "We believe then and we believe now that he has no power to investigate political action. What we will do will be within the law and public policy. We are gratified that we have been so effective so far."

PAC has spent less than a third of \$700,000 raised to support its work, which is almost exclusively educational, Hillman said earlier.

SCROLL FOR RACIAL UNITY

This morning, James Carey, CIO national secretary and chairman of CIO's Committee Against Discrimina-

Early Victory Possible—Smuts

BIRMINGHAM, England, May 19 (UP).—A gigantic three-way assault on Europe soon will squeeze Adolf Hitler's fortress, and a final decision in the war against Germany "may come much earlier than pessimists forecast," Field Marshal Jan Christian Smuts, Prime Minister of South Africa, said here today.

Smuts said that a giant triangular attack on Europe from the east, west and south "will remorselessly roll on and close in until nothing remains of Hitler's fortress."

Browder Greeted on 53d Birthday

Earl Browder, secretary of the Communist Party, received greetings on his 53rd birthday today from eight co-workers and Party leaders.

"Together with hundreds of thousands of working men and women, we join in celebrating your birthday on the very day of the opening of our great convention, the message declared.

It was signed by William Z. Foster, Robert Minor, James W. Ford, Gene Dennis, Elizabeth Gurley Flynn, John Williamson, Roy Hudson and Gilbert Green.

The greeting follows: It gives us great happiness to extend to you our warm affection on

your 53rd birthday.

Together with hundreds of thousands of working men and women, we join in celebrating your birthday on the very day of the opening of our great convention. Your firm leadership and wise counsel have raised the stature of the Communist movement in the eyes of our countrymen, especially in the great labor movement.

Standing at the helm of our Party, you have steered a course which has helped to widen the great patriotic front of struggle against fascism. You have become a pillar of strength in the defense of our country in its greatest crisis. Over a period of years, your creative thinking has given added power to the labor movement, helped it to maintain a clear perspective, and immeasurably enhanced labor's role in our war for national liberation.



Fur Parley 100% For 4th Term

By LEE COLLIER

ATLANTIC CITY, May 18. — A fourth term for President Roosevelt and reelection of Vice - President Wallace was voted today unanimously by the 400 delegates of the 15th biennial convention of the International Fur and Leather Workers, CIO.

With delegates of varied political views, among them many Republicans, the convention staged a noisy, prolonged demonstration when Irving Potash, chairman of the convention's win-the-war committee read the recommendations for adoption.

The resolution regards the reelection of the President as a foremost task to win the war and an enduring peace. The resolution projected for the 100,000-strong union a whole series of activities for victory, including a fifty million dollar war bond goal.

HITS PARTISAN POLITICS

The resolution sharply condemned "those who put unconscionable profit, greed, selfishness and partisan politics above the welfare of the country and the people." Named in that group were the Hearst-McCormick-Patterson Axis, Rep. Howard Smith, Dies, Rankin, Coughlin, Gerald L. K. Smith and from the ranks of labor, John L. Lewis, William Hutcheson and David Dubinsky.

A political action program adopted by the delegates called for political action committees in all locals, and all-out support of the CIO's PAC headed by Sidney Hillman.

Another resolution adopted embodying the union's postwar outlook, endorsed the President's "New Bill of Rights" and called for national unity to achieve a full-employment economy of \$200 billion annually. The union's executive board was instructed to make a special study of the fur and leather industry's postwar prospects.

VERGAN GUEST SPEAKER

A guest speaker today was Dr. Max Yergan of the Council of African Affairs. The convention showed its full appreciation of the program he outline by voting a \$1,000 donation for the council.

UPHOLSTERS BACK FOR REELECTION

PHILADELPHIA, May 19. — The Upholsters International in convention here, swelled the growing list of AFL unions for a fourth term. Delegates representing locals throughout the country with a membership estimated by officials at 50,000, also pledged to work for a liberal Congress to uphold the President's policy.

The convention also condemned Montgomery Ward and fully upheld the President's seizure of the company's Chicago plant.

The 5,000th Flying Fortress built since Pearl Harbor rolls off the Boeing assembly line in Seattle. Got eye strain reading that from Berlin, eh Hitler?

RR Union Chiefs Go Off the Track

WASHINGTON, May 19. — Sen. Gerald P. Nye of North Dakota, one of the most prominent defeatists in Congress, today was endorsed for reelection by the Railway Labor Executives Association which represents all rail unions except the Brotherhood of Railroad Trainmen.

The endorsement was made in Labor, rail union weekly. Although other endorsements were accompanied with fulsome blurbs there was not a word of explanation on the decision to back Nye.

Nye is not only a prominent America Firster, but also a bitter opponent of the Administration's domestic policies. He has voted against subsidies, against the \$35,000 limit on salaries and against cloture to limit the political filibuster.

OPPOSED BY BURDICK

The North Dakota senator is being opposed in the June 27 Republican primary by Rep. Usher Burdick, a vigorous supporter of the Administration's program.

Influence of Sen. Burton K. Wheeler, leader of the defeatist bloc in the Senate, among the top leaders of the rail unions was one factor in the Nye endorsement. Another factor is the resentment of rail union leaders against some Administration officials who opposed their wage demands.

The railroad union leaders have now joined with AFL President William Green in trying to put over Nye against the express wishes of organized labor in North Dakota. The state AFL in North Dakota has come out for Burdick.

It was regarded as a warning signal that defeatist influences are still strongly entrenched in the leadership of the AFL and the Railroad Unions.

King Peter Still Seeking Cabinet

LONDON, May 19 (UP).—King Peter of Yugoslavia opened consultations with political leaders today, seeking material for a new cabinet, well-informed quarters reported tonight.

Yugoslav quarters said that the formation of a new cabinet, to succeed the ministry of Bozidar Puritch, might take considerable time and that the King intended to see many persons who might aid him.

URGES UNITY APPEAL

Simovitch, in a statement today, urged that King Peter appeal to all movements within the country to unite forces for a combined fight against the Germans.

Simovitch came out of a two-year political retirement recently to praise Tito's work.

Allied Troops Enter Myitkyina Outskirts

SOUTHEAST ASIA HEADQUARTERS, Kandy, Ceylon, May 19 (UP).—Allied troops have broken into the outskirts of Myitkyina, principal Japanese base in northern



Allied troops have smashed into the outskirts of Myitkyina, key Japanese base in north Burma. The Myitkyina airdrome has already fallen. The enemy also suffered heavy casualties in an 11-hour battle against Chindits on the Mandalay-Myitkyina railroad.

Sink Nazi Ships Off Yugoslavia

LONDON, May 19 (UP).—A communiqué from Marshal Josip (Tito) Broz's headquarters today reported that Allied warships had sunk three German steamers and "one fighting boat" laden with Nazi troops, indicating that the Germans, harassed on land by Partisan forays against railroads leading down from the north, were now attempting to bring in reinforcements by sea.

In the land fighting, Tito's units were reported to have routed German columns numbering several thousand men in a fierce battle along the Krivaja river in eastern Bosnia. Continuing heavy fighting was revealed under way near the key rail points of Ljubljana and Bihac in western Bosnia.

Land, Air Quiet On Soviet Front

LONDON, May 19 (UP).—For the second successive day, the Soviet war bulletin tonight reported neither land nor air action on the eastern front.

Moscow said that in various minor actions on Thursday, Red Army forces wrecked 14 enemy tanks and shot down 43 planes.

Gaeta Captured, Fortified Mountain Line Outflanked

ALLIED HEADQUARTERS, Naples, May 19 (UP).—German defenses along two-thirds of the blazing battleground from the Liri River to the sea crumbled before American and French attacks today, with Gaeta abandoned to the Allies in a disorganized Nazi retreat.

A powerful American breakthrough past Formia on the seaward anchor of the German defenses outflanked the Nazis' mountain fortifications, and captured Monticelli and Santa Olivia in the Esperia sector to the north.

In their headlong retreat the Germans abandoned enough artillery for two divisions and other huge masses of heavy equipment of which no count has been made.

Polish forces were reported only a mile and a half from Piedimonte in the rugged

ranges beyond Cassino, and British Eighth Army troops which took Pignataro slashed forward early today to within striking distance of the south Aquino airfield.

In the area of Esperia, an important town on the southern edge of the Liri Valley captured yesterday, French forces fought their way over high ground along narrow passes to take the vital vantage point of Monte Paggetto, which represents a direct line advance of 17 miles since the offensive started a week ago, the farthest yet made by Allied troops.

ANZIO BEACHHEAD, Italy, May 18 (UP) (Delayed).—The capture of Cassino and Monastery Hill heightened the anticipation of American troops on the beachhead, all of whom feel that the battle of Italy is approaching a climax after a long, dreary winter.

Expect Over Million On the Mall Sunday

Anticipating a record throng for Sunday's I Am An American Day ceremonies, Mayor LaGuardia announced yesterday that more than 1,600 policemen and 1,050 members of the City Patrol Corps have been assigned to Central Park's Mall, where the event will be held (2:30 p.m.).

Helen Jepson and Igor Gorin of the Metropolitan Opera are the latest additions to the program, the Mayor said. Miss Jepson will sing the Star Spangled Banner and Gorin will sing the United Nations song.

More than 1,250,000 are expected to hear Senator Robert F. Wagner, Dr. Stephen S. Wise, Rt. Rev. William T. Manning and the casts of Winged Victory, Carmen Jones and Oklahoma. Heroes of the Navy, Army and Merchant Marines will be introduced by the Mayor, who will chair the meeting.



Donkey Express: Shades of Kit Carson and Buffalo Bill: Mail Clerk George Teague of Oklahoma City uses his slow but sure-footed mule to deliver a letter to Sgt. George Boesalis of Minneapolis at an air station of the 15th Army Air Force in Italy.

—Army Air Force Photo.

Berlin, Brunswick Blasted in New Pre-Invasion Air Offensive

LONDON, May 19 (UP).—Battling the Luftwaffe's massed fighter strength and a thick curtain of flak over the German capital, some 1,500 U. S. heavy bombers and fighters heavily blasted Berlin and the rail and aircraft-manufacturing center of Brunswick today in a full-scale resumption of the pre-invasion air offensive.

As Britain-based U. S. 8th Air Force Flying Fortresses and Liberators roared over Germany in great strength, huge armadas of Allied medium, light and fighter

bombers renewed the relentless pounding of Hitler's Atlantic wall in northern France after a six-day weather-enforced curtailment of activities.

Waves of Allied planes flew toward northern France soon after the American bombers set out for Germany.

Officers Shot Panicky Nazis At Sevastopol

By HARRISON SALISBURY

SEVASTOPOL, May 19 (UP).—Correspondents have been flown here from Moscow to inspect the battleground on which the Soviet Armies literally blasted to death the German 17th Army. From the beaten Germans themselves I received perhaps my most vivid picture of the last desperate days of the siege.

One German officer, Lt. Col. Alexander Franz, told me that Nazi officers had been forced to train their guns on their own men in a futile effort to curb their panic. One despairing Nazi general threatened suicide, Franz said, as the Russian vanguards closed in.

Franz, Chief of Staff of the 111th German Infantry Division, said his shattered troops—the 700 who had survived hectic street fighting within the city—had straggled out to

the red sandstone banks of the Kherones Peninsula on May 10, only to find the transports that were to meet them had not appeared.

SHIPS DIDN'T COME

"We learned the ships had been held up and would not arrive for another 24 hours," Franz said. "My men, along with the equally shattered 336th and 98th Divisions, decided to try to hold off the Russians along an earth wall three miles from the tip of the peninsula."

The next day four German ships arrived, Franz said, but only two departed, leading him to believe the others had been sunk. Another 24 hours passed and the German remnants, hard-pressed now, fell back to a second line. Franz went personally to see Maj. Gen. Gruner, one of the two Nazi generals still alive.

"He was in despair and on the

verge of suicide," Franz said later. "I offered to go to the Russians as an intermediary for surrender, but he refused."

"In order to prevent his suicide, I ordered an officer not to leave his side for one minute."

NAZIS IN FULL PANIC

By this time, the German soldiers were refusing to fight. Many laid down their arms and ran toward the shore in panic. Officers, guns in hand, ordered the men back to their posts, but the situation was completely out of control.

Looking about me, I could see three burned-out American tanks within my range of vision.

SOLDIERS DEFEY OFFICERS

Two German soldiers—Siegfried Deutsch, 24, Westphalia, and Karl Deutschbein, 24, Leipzig—described to me the attitude of the fleeing men.

"It is true, the officers did try to make the men return to their guns," they said, "but we were in no mood to continue resistance by then, and we told the officers so in no uncertain terms."

Lt. Col. Messinger, commander of the 306th German Artillery Regiment, said his men retreated to a little tongue of land called Maxim Gorky Point.

"We had no artillery left," Messinger said. "Our rifle fire grew weaker and weaker. Finally Russian troops appeared. It was the end."

SAW VAST NAZI DEAD

Later, from the shores of Kherones Peninsula, I saw hundreds of bodies littering a 15-foot ledge along the narrow rocky beach. These were the bodies of Germans drowned while attempting to reach boats, or killed in the final Russian onslaught.

In the hot sunshine the bodies were bloated and the brine had colored them green and chalky white. Into this peninsula for 89 hours after the final capitulation of Sevastopol were jammed 50,000 Germans. The slaughter in that area, roughly three miles long and one mile wide, was terrific.

When the battle was over, shortly after 10 a.m. on May 12, some 25,000 were prisoners. The others were dead. You couldn't walk more than a yard or two in any direction without stepping on a body.

The city of Sevastopol itself is rubble. In a 90-minute drive through the streets, I saw only five buildings which appeared habitable. Mayor Vassily Yefimov estimated that 10,000 civilians remain from the prewar population of 100,000. I saw only 30 civilians.

The harbor is a mass of wrecked hulks and mines which must be removed before ships can enter.

Orlemanski's Home City Stands By Him

By DANIEL B. SCHIRMER

SPRINGFIELD, Mass., May 19.—The esteem and affection for Father Orlemanski among members of his parish is unmeasured and spontaneous. It is clear that he is a man who is truly a father to his flock, we learned from interviewing many of his parishioners here. Armory turning out the Garand rifles. Mrs. Choinacka was saddened by Father Orlemanski's recent trials.

"He's a working man just like the rest of us," she said. "He built the church with his own hands and we all worked with him."

"He wants Poland to be democratic just like America," she asserted. Roosevelt has helped to make a good life for the working

man in this country, and Father Orlemanski wants to see the same thing happen for Poland. I knew from my own life what the old Poland is like. The rich landlords run everything and the poor have a hard lot. At the age of nine I worked for a landlord at fifteen cents a day and I got stripes on my back if I didn't do my work just so. All Father Orlemanski wants is to do good for the poor people, to give them a chance in Poland the same as they have in this country.

"I was broken hearted when Bishop O'Leary suspended the Father and the other women in the parish were crying about it too. It was such a shame for us. I hope things will be better now."

NEED MORE LIKE HIM

The church organist, Mrs. Kucarski, said of Orlemanski, "We should have more like him. His people are all behind him. He's a wonderful pastor. His trip should bring Russia and America closer to-

gether. Anything to bring victory and peace nearer is what the people want."

A young American of Polish descent, Stanley Skiba, who works at a local war plant, said:

"Most of the young American-born Polish in Father Orlemanski's parish are in the army, but if they were home they would all be speaking out for him. He's only trying to get the United States, Poland, and the other nations together. He's 100 per cent democratic and American."

Stanley's mother, Mrs. John Skiba, chimed in, "I've been in his parish for 27 years. He's the best man I've ever known. Those that say he's against America and the government are liars; he's working for America, to support the government and President Roosevelt."

MAYOR BACKS TRIP

Respect for Father Orlemanski and an open-minded attempt to understand what he is trying to do were the rule in Springfield.

Mayor Albin J. Anderson, interviewed by the writer, said:

"I agree with Wendell Willkie that Russia is one of the great powers and wishful thinking won't change this fact. An effort to improve relations such as Father Orlemanski's appears to be a positive method to be preferred to sitting around and waiting for the Soviet Union to work with us."

Mrs. Benjamin Carson, vice-president of the Springfield chapter of the National Ass. for the Advancement of Colored People, enthusiastically declared:

"His trip shows that Americans are interested in the Russian war effort, and it will help to strengthen relations with the Soviet Union. I think it's grand that he's trying to do this."

FOR U. S.-SOVIET UNITY

The secretary of the Springfield YMCA, Charles Lee, a prominent civic leader, said, "I like to see everything done that can cement our relationships with Russia, and I

would hope that Father Orlemanski's trip would accomplish that result. It seems to me that the time has come when we must separate the chaff from the wheat, and not look with distrust on everything that Joseph Stalin proposes."

C. Herbert Salter, district representative of the CIO United Electrical Workers in Springfield, remarked, "Father Orlemanski is doing what he can to bring about international cooperation for peace. He did not swallow the propaganda of the Polish reactionaries but instead went over to see what Stalin had to say about Poland and the Catholic Church. He is a real man for the people."

Hubert Kregeloh, local radio commentator and teacher at Springfield College, whose broadcasts have helped to interpret Father Orlemanski to the citizens of Springfield, told this writer "Father Orlemanski was trying to secure Polish-American support for a policy based on an understanding with Russia."

Election Scene

CIO Political Action Gives Tories Hysteria

By Max Gordon

Reading about the hysteria created over the CIO's Political Action Committee by the specter haunting congressional Tories—I am reminded of the dire prophecies in New York Post editorials during the recent ALP primary campaign.

Day after day the Post wrote that Sidney Hillman had given the kiss of death to the Political Action Committee by associating with the "Communists." The refrain was picked up now and then by PM writers and even found its way into the Nation and New Republic, though the reproach there was considerably more gentle.

Yesterday the Post confessed editorially, if only by implication, that its prophecies were false. It admitted that the Democratic Party, with the aid of the PAC, may be heading toward a "more vigorous liberalism" and gave it some of the credit for the recent "liberal" primary victories.

I don't think, however, that the hysteria of Howard Smith, John Rankin and Clare Hoffman is solely due to fear that they, too, may be defeated for reelection. They are bitter not only because of what will happen to them, but because of what has already happened to the nation and the Democratic Party.

GAVE LEADERSHIP

In the few short months of its existence, the PAC succeeded in giving leadership, direction and organization not only to labor but also to other groups in the primaries. It quickly demonstrated that the so-called Republican "trend" was a myth. Earlier defeats resulted chiefly from the fact that local Democratic leadership lacked direction.

The PAC's success in stimulating the fourth term drive bothers the Smith-Rankin-Hoffman crowd as much as the possible loss of their jobs. The future of their congressional policies, as well as their careers, is involved.

Congressional reaction is making an effort to picture the PAC as distorting the real political views of the people by the use of coercion and huge slush funds.

The exact opposite is, of course, true. I recall that during the period of the so-called Republican "trend," liberals were already giving up the ghost. Their organs were printing political "dope" stories about how reaction was going to be in the saddle for at least the next four years because the people were turning against FDR. They were already planning a comeback in 1948.

At that time we insisted that GOP state and congressional victories were due chiefly to failure of the Democrats to raise the war issue. This made local questions dominant and kept many pro-

Roosevelt voters home. We denied that there was any trend toward Republicanism among the people.

POPULAR SENTIMENT

Events have proved we were right. Because the PAC has stimulated the Democrats and other pro-Roosevelt sections of the population to activity, and has brought the issue of the President's war policies to the fore, the primaries have been registering the actual sentiments of the people. When elections do that, it is time for Tories to throw a fit.

The struggle is not over, of course, by a long shot. The job of organizing the people for a fourth term has only been begun. The drive to elect a Congress that will be typical of the views of the people is still in its early stages. But the picture has changed considerably from that of a few months ago when most political experts, including even some old line Democrats were convinced that the 79th Congress would be GOP-dominated.

The PAC's major job has been, and remains to help weld together the variety of popular forces in each community behind pro-FDR candidates.

Negro, White Join in Rent Suit

Organized tenants, Negro and white, in two Brooklyn apartment houses, 477 Gates Ave. and 784 March St. have filed suit in Federal Court against their landlord, Kingswood Realty Corp., 16 Court St., to force compliance with OPA rent control regulations.

The 28 families, who have elected a house committee, "are withholding rent pending an adjustment by the OPA Regional Rent Office," according to a letter released by William Smith, chairman.

Parley to Hear Pepper, Kilgore

Senators Claude Pepper and Harley Kilgore will be among more than 50 experts in government, business, labor, science, professional and white collar fields who will participate at the National War-time Conference June 2 and 3 at Hotel Commodore.

Pepper will chair the panel on "Standards of Living," which will hear Harold Ruttenberg, United Steelworkers, CIO; Randolph Feltis, senate sub-committee on Wartime Health and Education; Dr. Hildegarde Kneeland, Barnard College economist, and Mrs. Eleanor Fowler, Congress of Women's Auxiliaries, CIO.

Kilgore will preside at the panel on "International Collaboration of the Professions in the Postwar World."

News Capsules Medal for Robeson

Paul Robeson, star of Othello was recipient of the National Institute of Arts and Letters medal for good diction, at the institute's annual ceremonies. Gold Medal for fiction went to Willa Cather; an award of merit for fiction to Theodore Dreiser.

Numerous strangers expressed their sympathy to Mrs. Helen Richie, 327 East 89th St., whose five-year-old twins were drowned in the East River, with donations to help cover burial cost of her son Richard. Hundreds of men and women lining the shore of the East River Drive wept when Richard's body was pulled up by police. He was drowned Wednesday afternoon when he attempted to save his sister Irene, whose body has not yet been recovered.

Two New Yorkers, Samuel Hartstein and Louis Kyle, the State OPA charges, kept wealthy families supplies with rationed food, poultry, free and at above ceiling

prices. They sold butter at 90 cents a pound, eggs at 79 cents a dozen, and beef at more than \$1 a pound.

At Los Angeles, two year old Alta Mira Sorenson, whose parents made a desperate last-minute attempt to save her life, died of leukemia.

A speeding automobile with seven passengers, all teen agers, collided with a New York Central passenger train at Mt. Carmel, Ill. All seven died.

"Why do women swoon over Frank Sinatra?" was the first question popped to actress Gertrude Lawrence by British reporters when she arrived in London.

While crossing subway tracks, 36-year-old Arnold Runde of Neenah, Wis. was killed by a train which had pulled out of the 14th Street station bound for South Ferry, on the Seventh Ave. line.



Saved 135 Men at Sea: One of America's youngest ship masters, Capt. Morgan A. Maxey, 27, of Rusk, Texas, receives the Merchant Marine Distinguished Service Medal from Admiral Albert Randall, commandant of the Maritime Service. Capt. Maxey rescued 135 members of a French destroyer at the height of an East Indian Ocean cyclone.

Send Negro Combat Troops To Europe, Urges NAACP Head

Some 14 sore spots in relations between Negro soldiers and the War Department were uncovered by Walter White, executive secretary of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, in a 15-week, 20,000-mile tour of the European theater of operations, just ended. He has made remedial recommendations to the Secretary of War, it was announced here yesterday.

Gen. Eisenhower's directive to abolish "off limits" of towns and taverns should be enforced in all areas, White says, for many Negro soldiers believe such directives apply specifically to them. He recommends also a special board, to include an eminent Negro lawyer with appropriate military rank, to review courts-martial cases.

Deliberately-spread stories in England that "Negroes are afraid to fight" make it essential that Negro combat troops be sent there, White says.

"It is unfortunate," he states, "that, with the exception of some anti-aircraft units, only Negro service units have been sent to the European theater."

He recommends that Negro medium bomber crews be sent to England "to fly in non-segregated units" and that service troops now stationed there be given refresher courses in the use of combat weapons, because "many of these troops will closely follow the assault waves of invasion, will be under fire, and need to be made competent in the use of weapons."

He says the presence of more Negro officers above the rank of captain in England would materially aid morale.

ASKS FIGHT ON RUMORS

Anti-Negro rumors, some printed and spread by non-existent organizations and signed with fictitious names, should be tracked down, White says, declaring that leaflets, placards and other material have

been used to poison the Italians against Negro American troops.

The American Red Cross is praised for doing, "in many respects, a superlative job," but "white" and "colored" clubs maintained by it not only introduce segregation to the British but deny Negro and white soldiers the opportunity of knowing one another.

The War Department attitude toward race, the NAACP head declares, "lags behind that of much of the army personnel" and, while an "advanced position" might be opposed by some persons, "it would be approved by a much larger percentage than the War Department appears to believe possible."

"PATERNALISM HIT

He calls for an end to "the paternalistic attitude on the part of some white officers toward Negro soldiers," declaring the men resent it, regardless of the degree of their education. He recommends "more news and more sympathetic handling of news dealing with Negro troops."

Other recommendations are that more Negro actors and singers be sent to all troops and that neither white nor Negro military police be armed except when guarding pay-rolls.

AFL Jewellery Union Endorses 4th Term

ST. LOUIS, May 18.—The convention of the International Jewellery Workers (AFL) here passed a resolution for a fourth term with only one dissenting vote.

The convention also called for an end of the poll tax, upward revision of the "Little Steel" formula and passage of the Lynch Bill which would ban hate literature from the mails.

Keep Up Production, CIO Tells SKF Men

PHILADELPHIA, May 19.—The CIO has joined with the Army and Navy in urging SKF workers to concentrate on the production of bearings vital to the war effort.

Newspaper stories concerning government investigation of the Swedish parent firm had caused rumors of Nazi control of SKF to spread among the 8,500 workers in the four SKF plants in this area, and production, particularly in the three Frankford plants, was affected.

High Army and Navy officials, and William Batt, SKF president, toured the plants this week, to reassure the workers that disposition of American SKF bearings was under U. S. control.

CONFIRMS GOOD RECORD

While indicating the investigation of SKF will continue, an announcement by the Treasury and Allen Property Custodian, after Batt's visit stated that the Army and Navy confirmed that SKF has a good war production record, and that any drop in production would have a serious effect on "planned operations."

The parent SKF company in Sweden has been under Anglo-American pressure to stop ball-bearing shipments to Germany. In Washington, Joseph J. O'Connell, general counsel for the treasury department, pointed out that a "pre-mature" leak forced the government to announce its inquiry into SKF, and to reassure SKF workers that they are not aiding the enemy by working for the American company.

CIO URGES ALL-OUT OUTPUT

An appeal by the United Electrical, Radio, and Machine Workers, CIO, bargaining agent at the Gwynedd SKF plant, in Montgomery county, was distributed to the employees. It declared:

"Any delay in production will be harmful to our government and to our boys on the fighting fronts. Our government, the U.S.A., is in a better position than we are as employees or as a union, to judge what action, if any, shall be taken with regard to SKF industries and Swedish ownership. Let our government solve that problem. Let us continue

to exert our best efforts to produce bearings needed by the armed forces."

The United Steelworkers, CIO, conducting an organizing drive in the three SKF Philadelphia plants, criticized President Batt and the company for fostering company unionism, and pledged "all possible cooperation with our government to defeat Hitlerism and win the war."

Labor Fights New NLRB Rule

WASHINGTON, May 19.—The CIO and the AFL today prepared to put their case before Monday's National Labor Relations Board hearing in opposition to a rule that would give employers a right to petition for a collective bargaining election.

The rule, application of which is held up pending the hearing, is an outgrowth of the Montgomery Ward case. All an employer would have to do to stall on contract renewal is to raise a "reasonable doubt" on the union's claim of a majority of the employees. This was precisely the picture in the Montgomery Ward dispute.

If this rule is applied, declared Lee Pressman attorney for the CIO as he and President Philip Murray and AFL representatives mapped their strategy, it would probably create a provocative situation that has no equal in terms of the threatened impact on war production.

Cleveland Postcard Drive Backs OPA

CLEVELAND, May 19.—Cleveland CIO locals are circulating thousands of postcards to congressmen calling upon them to fight for price control.

GROPPERGRAMS



U. S. clothes collection for USSR is the exact opposite of the activities of this Nazi LOOTENANT.

If Gropper can use your original gag you will receive \$1. Address: Groppergrams, care Daily Worker, 59 East 13th

22 Groups Meet On Postwar

Twenty-two of the country's principal organizations of industry, finance, agriculture and labor, including the CIO, AFL and Railroad Brotherhoods, completed the first of a two-day session here with a feeling that much progress towards a common understanding on postwar economy has been reached.

The National Postwar Conference, launched at a conference last February in Atlantic City initiated by the National Association of Manufacturers, will continue to meet all day today here at St. Moritz Hotel.

Sessions are closed, but a statement issued by the press committee at the end of the afternoon's session, said:

"On the whole all the participating organizations ended the day with a conviction that they were building the sort of common understanding on which a balanced and equitable postwar economy might be built."

Robert J. Watt of the AFL is chairman of the conference press committee. Albert J. Goss, Master of the Farmers Grange, was named to head a committee to summarize the discussion of the conference. One of the decisions was to make the conference a permanent body through which the independent research work of each of the organizations would be exchanged.

Others among the participating organizations are the Chamber of Commerce, Aeronautical Chamber of Commerce, American Bankers Assn., American Farm Bureau Federation, American Legion, American Trucking Assn., Association of American Railroads, Committee for Economic Development, Disabled American Veterans, International Association of Lions Clubs, Investment Bankers Assn., Kiwanis International, Rotary International, Veterans of Foreign Wars, National Council of Farm Cooperatives, National Foreign Trade Council and the National Assn. of Motor Bus Operators.

Forrestal Sworn In

WASHINGTON, May 19 (UP).—James Vincent Forrestal was sworn in today as the 49th secretary of the Navy at a brief ceremony attended by members of the congressional naval committees and top ranking admirals.

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Labor Scene

The 'Strike Wave' And the Labor Draft

Every time newspapers build up a strike fever there is a corresponding clamor for labor draft legislation. By now we are quite accustomed to "strike-wave" build-ups. As usual when the smoke clears, we discover that the extent of the walkouts has been greatly exaggerated.

The claim that pending draft bills in Congress are intended to meet manpower difficulties is equally false. The fact that demand for such bills rises in proportion to "strike wave" publicity is the best proof of that.

FDR'S CONDITIONS

We have on previous occasions stated that we are not in principle against national service legislation. If an emergency really required it, President Roosevelt, in suggesting such legislation in his January message to Congress, declared he would approve it only:

1) If it was part of the full stabilization, soldier vote and tax program he outlined, and

2) If the protective measures were included to prevent such a law from becoming an anti-labor weapon.

What we have seen in Congress has been something entirely different. Far from applying the President's proposals, the lawmakers have sabotaged or scuttled most of it. And the labor draft measures, far from being an effort to meet manpower difficulties, are really weapons against labor, particularly the union shop.

That, not manpower, appears to be the chief interest of the sponsors of the measures.

ENGLAND'S LESSON

National service legislation is not an insurance against strikes. England proved, even in that country's most critical days. Such legislation now, when cutbacks and layoffs are being widely discussed, when reconversion to civilian production is already under way in many fields, is ridiculous. It would not make more productive manpower available, it would greatly impair the efficiency of the manpower at work.

Secretary of the Navy Forrestal, testifying before the senate's military affairs committee for the new Brewster-Bailey labor draft bill, pointed to a 60 percent turnover in Navy Yard manpower. He gave as reasons for the continual shifting of employment unsatisfactory working conditions, desire to return to farms, dissatisfaction with wage rates and job classification, availability of better jobs elsewhere, distant transportation, grievances, bad housing conditions, and separation from families.

A draft wouldn't solve those problems.

MURRAY'S SOLUTION

President Philip Murray of the CIO submitted proposals to meet these problems without legislation. Essence of his proposals is cooperation between government, management, labor and agriculture to agree voluntarily on needed steps.

Why are Murray's proposals still on paper after many months?

Labor's decisive part in achieving miracle war production is today unquestioned by normal people. The record is too obvious. So why not

make a real effort to meet this problem, too, on the basis of a voluntary agreement on measures to meet manpower needs?

The point that labor is stressing today is that such cooperation is needed until victory and in the postwar period. The plain fact is that labor has unanimously rejected a labor draft and those who sponsor it are consciously aiming to disrupt cooperation and demoralize American workers.

CAUSE OF STRIKE

Much of the causes that underlie our manpower difficulties, such as Forrester's point out in Navy yards, are also the causes of strikes. While strikes are greatly exaggerated, the few that do occur are serious and any let-down on the no-strike agreement is dangerous. The military leaders who so frequently remind us of the effect of strikes on the battlefronts and even upon offensive plans, are absolutely right. But the real way to avoid strikes is to get at the causes—speedier War Labor Board disposal of cases, revision of the Little Steel formula to meet realities, improvements in working conditions and labor-management relations.

PM did not help matters much with its editorial yesterday trying to justify "certain" strikes. The Montgomery Ward strike which PM admits Sewell Avery had tried to provoke for years, is given as one example. But PM does not explain what advantage it sees for the workers if they oblige Avery.

Actually PM's position is the first step towards nullifying the no-strike agreement generally, for there is no demarcation between war and civilian work or between strikes in either fields.

The policy in PM, which the Trotskyites and Lewisites will welcome, would only give more ammunition to the sponsors of labor draft and other anti-labor legislation.

Mayor to Address NMU Event Monday

Mayor Fiorello H. LaGuardia will be a principal speaker at National Maritime Day ceremonies Monday afternoon at the National Maritime Union, 346 W. 17 St. It was announced yesterday by Joseph Curran, president.

The union will unveil a memorial and dedicate its buildings in honor of more than 5,500 merchant seamen who have died delivering the goods to our fighting forces and Allies.

Admiral R. R. Waesche, Commandant of the United States Coast Guard, will present Gold Star flags to two Negro and white representatives of the NMU Women's Auxiliary.

Philip Murray, CIO president; Frank J. Taylor, president of the American Merchant Marine Institute, and Sergeant Phil Stern, 1st Ranger Battalion, U. S. Army, recently awarded the Purple Heart, will also speak. Joseph Curran, NMU president, will be chairman.

A program of entertainment will feature Zero Mostel, Rosetta LeNoir, Billy Banks, Pat Ryan and David LeWinter.

FDR Promotes Naval Commanders

WASHINGTON, May 19 (UP).—President Roosevelt today nominated Vice Admiral Marc A. Mitchers to hold that rank for the duration.

At the same time, he nominated Rear Admiral John H. Hoover for promotion to vice admiral for the duration and Capt. George T. Owen for promotion to commodore.

KEY NOTE

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Lucien Middel gives inside story of French Underground at Communist convention, Madison Sq. Garden, Tuesday, May 23, at 7:30 p.m.

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Merchant Marine

Bob Thompson, holder of Distinguished

Service Cross, is among speakers at

Madison Sq. Garden, Tuesday, May 23,

7:30 p.m.

Daily Worker

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Sumner Welles' Speech

WE DON'T know for whom Sumner Welles is speaking, and just what he is after. But we do know that his Thursday night speech, implying that unity of the big powers means a dictatorship over the small nations, is dangerous and harmful.

Welles is hepped on the idea that the "big three" cannot solve the remaining political problems before them unless they form a world council right now. He wants all the small nations represented. Anything less, he says, means that our present coalition will not last and is bound to invite selfish jockeying for power.

While he admits that a basis for a permanent world organization was laid down at the Moscow conference, Welles suggests that our leaders do not really mean to make such an organization work.

We think this is reckless and irresponsible talk. It is significant that some circles on the New York Times get excited about this idea and give it much publicity. Only one group talks that way. That is the Polish government-in-exile and related elements among other governments-in-exile.

The fact is that to solve the remaining political problems in the democratic world, both for war and peace, we need greater unity precisely among the "big three": this is the key to everything else.

We cannot so easily forget the experience with the League of Nations, when Britain and France evaded responsibility for unity with Russia in the name of the supposed rights and viewpoints of the smaller countries.

Role of Moscow Accord

To say this does not deny the need for a permanent world organization. On the contrary, the major powers are committed to that. It will certainly respect the sovereignty and invite the participation of the smaller countries. This was decided at Moscow, and we see no reason to doubt that our war leaders mean to build such a body.

But to pose an ultimate world organization against unity of the "big three" today only creates doubts at a moment and on a subject where such doubts are harmful and unwarranted.

Nor can we agree, as Welles suggests, that the two major parties have already reached a unity on foreign policy. The Republican Party is far from support of the President's foreign policy. The America First wing of the GOP is fighting that foreign policy, while a man like Dewey merely pays lip service to it.

Why Sumner Welles should give a different impression we can only guess. Despite his support for the President, Welles' address the other night will serve the purpose of forces alien to the President's leadership.

World Labor Conference

PRESIDENT SIDNEY HILLMAN of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers and the union's convention have called upon the CIO to do everything in its power to see that a world labor conference is convened as early as possible in Canada, the United States or London. The CIO, obviously, is the only organization in the United States to press for such step. The AFL's leaders, unfortunately, have not yet seen the light.

The Canadian AFL and CIO organizations have already made such a proposal. There need hardly be any speculation as to what the attitude of the Soviet trade unions would be. Sir Walter Citrine, British labor spokesman, has already spoken favorably for such a move, as did Vicente Lombardo Toledano, spokesman for Latin America labor.

Mr. Hillman was vigorous in stressing the urgency of a conference without delay. The recent ILO meeting, he pointed out, was weak because of the absence of the Soviet Union and the CIO. An early world labor conference is needed if the influence of world labor is to be felt in developments towards victory and in postwar period.

If the conference is held on this side of the Atlantic, the few top leaders of the AFL who are still stubbornly holding out against participation will find it more difficult to remain on the outside looking in. Their difficulty has been steadily mounting because of growing pressure for international labor unity within AFL ranks and because the inadequacy of the ILO conference was so glaringly shown. To stay out when a world labor conference is held on our front porch would be too much even for old-line leaders.



Between the Lines

Suppressing News From Italy

By Joseph Starobin

THE Associated Press kicked up quite a rumpus the other day because an interview with Marshal Tito in Yugoslavia had been held up by the Allied Mediterranean Command. The fact that Tito finally wrote an article in his own name for Free World took the edge off that incident, although the AP story is still held up by censors in Algiers.



But what shall we say of the practical censorship which the big American newspapers have been exercising toward news of the new Italian government? There's been hardly a word in our papers about the very impressive work which the new government is doing. Especially shocking since the OWI puts out such news every day.

When the two main forces in southern Italy were fighting each other, that made headlines. When they unite, the papers are mum.

The Case of Prince Humbert

For example, a sensational thing happened on May 11 in the Council of Ministers of the new Italian government. It appears that Crown Prince Humbert had given an interview to the London Times some weeks back, alleging that his father, King Victor Emmanuel, was not responsible for okaying fascism because, after all, the Italian people wanted fascism and they got what they wanted.

This caused an uproar, not only in democratic circles, but even among Badoglio's men. And so on May 11, the Council of Ministers with Badoglio presiding, resolved "that it is not in conformity with constitutional and democratic practice for a representative of the Crown to make statements which are not in accord with government policy."

The resolution "repudiated unanimously any accusation against the Italian people implying their responsibility for the fascist war."

I recommend this to the editors of PM, who talk about making history, but don't seem to recognize history when it is made. I recommend it also to Italian intellectuals like Randolfo Pacciardi and Gaetano Salvemini, who are poisoning American opinion against the new government.

Purging The Fascists

Here are some more facts. Under the leadership of the new Socialist minister of the interior in the new government, the police force and Carabinieri are being quietly reorganized and the fascists kicked out. Count Sforza has been appointed head of a commission to purge fascists from public life. . . . Palmiro Togliatti is in charge of preparing the future National Assembly. . . . Fausto Gullo, the new minister of agriculture, and a Communist, is now putting a remarkable grain collection scheme into practice. It is going to undermine the whole social basis of fascism, and what is more, will soon relieve the Allies of any need to send wheat to Italy.

Peasants will contribute 45 percent of their wheat to a common store, a "Peoples Granary." Five percent remains for sowing, and 50 percent they can hold themselves. Three thousand village committees have been formed, with anti-fascist representatives on them, to distribute the grain from the Peoples Granaries and so break the black market. The newly-formed Catholic Peasant League has ratified the plan, expressing its "absolute trust in the new government."

For the first time in history, landless peasants are represented in these committees, but the landlords—contrary to fascist prac-

tice—are not. Self-sufficiency in wheat, which Mussolini could not achieve in 20 years, the new government is planning to achieve in one year at least in southern Italy.

Women Named To Algiers Body

The first woman member of the French Consultative Assembly in Algiers has just taken her seat. Mme Marthe Simard of the Fighting French in Canada. . . . Keep an eye on American-Argentine and American-Bolivian relations. There is a high pressure campaign for recognition of Argentina, and an American mission has just been sent to Bolivia. . . . something's up.

Many readers have expressed shock at the news that Jesus Hernandez has been expelled from the Communist Party of Spain, as reliably reported in this column a week ago. They wanted more details. So far as I know, the story is that Hernandez arrived in Mexico announcing his intention of taking over the leadership of the party. As is known, the top figure in the Spanish party is Dolores Ibarruri (La Pasionaria), now in Moscow. Hernandez's attitude shocked his own fellow-members in Mexico City, who quickly became convinced that the "big in his bonnet" would prove ruinous unless he were disassociated from the organization.

The Communist Party's National Convention, opening here today, is distinguished by the presence of prominent visitors from neighboring lands. . . . You will see them all next Tuesday night at Madison Square Garden. . . . see you there.

Worth Repeating

ERNST TOLLER, late German poet and dramatist, in a hitherto unpublished manuscript appearing in part in current (May 20) Saturday Review of Literature and which is appropriate for quotation with sedition trials on: Nazi propaganda is poisoning not the German peoples alone. With great cunning and immense supplies of money they are sending out those poisonous germs into all the other countries in order to prepare a world epidemic of spiritual madness. Man is menaced. The foundations of civilization are menaced.

Today's Guest Column

I CALL attention today to the critical problem of our relations with Argentina with the full consciousness that our minds are preoccupied with the imminent invasion of Europe. Why, then, drag in the question of Argentina? Isn't the Argentine problem way off on the edge of today's focus?



The answer is that on the outcome of the Argentine crisis depends the unity of over 270 million people in the Western Hemisphere. We have at our southern doorstep a major political battle against fascism. A year ago the Nazis made

a full-scale political landing in Buenos Aires and they have since been engaged in extending their territory. The governments of Bolivia and Paraguay have been captured politically. The pressure upon Chile has been sufficiently great to force recognition of Farrell's fascist clique in Argentina. The massacre in El Salvador, the attempted assassination of President Camacho of Mexico, the planned armed uprising in Costa Rica, the divisive maneuvers in Peru, Ecuador, Colombia, Venezuela, the Herrerista provocations in Uruguay—all these are part of the Nazi strategy of creating a diversion—not to mention a new base of operations on our side of the Atlantic.

FASCISM in Latin America is, then, no fly-by-night proposition. It is a strongly established invasion which has established

By Frederick V. Field

not only a bridgehead in Argentina but a deep salient into adjoining territory with outposts throughout the continent. There can be no question that this constitutes a threat to the home base of our European invasion forces.

The Department of State and particularly Secretary Hull are to be commended on their recognition of this threat. It took them overlong to know it for what it was, fascism, but today there can be no question of the staunchness of Mr. Hull's stand. If there were no question that the non-recognition policy would prevail and be reinforced until it achieved its objective of ridding the hemisphere of organized fascism, there would be no crisis to concern us at this fateful hour. But the facts are otherwise.

Extraordinary pressure is being brought to bear upon our government to appease Argentine fascism. The source of the pressure is primarily the fascist bloc in Latin America itself. Its principal supporters are a narrow-commercial bloc in Great Britain who because of an apparent lack of public pressure pursue unchallenged a Munich policy toward the Argentine situation, and those South American nations who fear to withstand the pressure of the relatively powerful Argentina without certain guarantees from ourselves.

THESE latter nations, eager for the victory of the United Nations, are nevertheless fearful lest the American people let them

Nazi Bridgehead In Latin America

down by a return to isolation, otherwise known as pre-Teheran imperialism. For these nations, groping to read the minds of the North American people, the presidential elections are the test of whether we will stick by their democratic aspirations or forsake them. We have not yet been able to convince them that we are committed to the course plotted at Teheran. And so they are inclined to hedge on the question of Argentina.

A prominent American is unfortunately the main spokesman in this country for those who wish to appease Latin American fascism. Sumner Welles, perhaps forgetting that he once intervened in Cuba on behalf of the notorious Machado dictatorship, now argues for recognition of the Argentine clique on the ground that non-recognition is intervention. He misses the basic fact that the present Argentine government results from active Nazi intervention against the will of the Argentine people, and that recognition on our part would make us an accessory to the murder of Argentine democracy.

There is far too slender a public reaction on this issue. By failure to express ourselves we are making it extremely difficult for Mr. Hull and his Department to stand up against the pressure being brought against the continuance of non-recognition. On the verge of the European invasion we cannot permit this issue to be lost by default. All of us, as individuals and as responsible representatives of mass organizations, must throw our support behind the non-recognition of the fascist government in Argentina.

Listen Here,



Mr. Editor

"Ten Baby Fingers"

New York City.

Editor, Daily Worker:

I'm certainly happy to see that



the "Daily" is now out in tabloid form. See how hard it was for me to handle the former sheets? DANA FOX.

From the Working Press

New York City

Editor, Daily Worker:

As two newspapermen with several years of professional experience we want to congratulate the Worker staff on its fine new format. Months ago, when the editors asked for the readers' opinions on a change to tabloid size we wrote in our desire to see a new format adopted. We're fully gratified with the result.

Now, we feel, readers read more than they previously did, because articles receive a better play on the smaller pages. The paper as a whole appears more lively, more up-to-date, more ordered and logical. The future condensed headline dress is snappy. The guest columns are swell.

TWO NEWSPAPERMEN.

Dewey's Dirty Work

Great Neck, N. Y.

Editor, Daily Worker:

Following up Cacchione's excellent suggestion that the drive to register for voting men in the armed forces be coupled with an expose of Dewey's position, why do you not give in detail, perhaps, in table form the answers to the two questions he suggests regarding:

- (1) Difference between the two Ballots, Federal and State?
- (2) Difficulties created by State Ballot?

His next to last paragraph is not sufficiently detailed to use in answering questions about the Federal Ballot. Repetition of what must be done under present law in N.Y. State to insure armed servicemen's voting would complete a useful picture for ready reference.

Dr. L. A. E.

Easier to Read

New York.

Editor, Daily Worker:

The new Daily Worker! What a beautiful job. It is much easier to read and more exciting. As a matter of fact each page is so full of interesting and important news that I have a new problem. How can a guy read the entire paper every day on limited time? Congratulations.

A. POLAZZOLO.

Shipshape

Staten Island.

Editor, Daily Worker:

Temporarily drydocked, merchant seamen, Daily Worker readers say, splice the main bawl! We really got a paper now.

The new style is trim and shipshape, especially easy to navigate while lying in bed. Salut to the new "Daily." "Blow, Blow, Blow the Politicians Down."

BILL MCCARTHY.

The opinions expressed in these letters are those of the readers and not necessarily of the paper. We welcome letters from our readers and their friends on subjects of current interest. To facilitate the printing of as many letters as possible, and to allow for the freest discussion, please limit letters to 300 words.

Views On Labor News

TRADE unionists will find a special interest in the Madison Square Garden public session of the Communist Party's convention next Tuesday night. When Earl Browder summarizes the work of the convention he will give us the essence of what a quarter century of Communist activity has meant to America.

The work of the Communists has had a profound influence upon the life of the country generally. But in the first place this influence impressed itself within and through the trade unions. Unionists act and think as organized people. The very essence of Communist activity is the united thought and effort of the most advanced people—primarily working people.

This convention will mark a turning point in the work of the Communists to make them a still greater influence for a progressive policy during and after the war. Most certainly the development of this policy will basically affect progressive labor activity.

WHAT an amazing change we have had since the first Communist convention! I am not saying that progress in labor began with the birth of the Communist Party. But when the Communist Party emerged, a con-



By George Morris

solidation began of the best there is in tradition and initiative in American labor.

The best of the old Socialist Party, Socialist Labor Party, IWW, syndicalist groups, progressive AFL members, advanced groups among Negroes and backboned liberals found their way into the main stream. The concept of what is generally taken today as a progressive program for labor was shaped and carried forward in the process of this unification of progressives under Marxism.

The unity that has existed among the Communists for the past 15 years, in face of unbelievable persecution, is proof enough of the strong foundation that has consolidated.

One of the secrets of Communist success, despite powerful enemies, has been the continual process of sweeping out garbage. Our enemies, particularly reactionary labor leaders, have always been rummaging in the garbage pile for something they could use—be it a Trotskyite, Lovestoneite, a white chauvinist, an opportunist, an embezzler. I suppose it is their privilege to do so. They've been doing it long before Dies came on the scene. But now that we are taking stock, the achievements of the Communists ought to testify that what was swept out was nothing but slop.

COMMUNISTS have given the country the classical examples of amalgamating the efforts of several organizations to organize a

What Garden Session Tuesday Will Mean to Trade Unionists

basic industry, as Bill Foster did in the historic steel strike of 1919. The late Jack Johnstone showed it could be done in packing.

The idea of industrial unionism was taken out of the IWW imagination stage and developed into a realizable policy. The old slogan of "no politics in the union" has given way to political action committees and legislative activity. Communists gave the historic examples that proved that workers of mass production industries could be organized if given leadership, as in steel, textile (especially the South) and the auto centers. Communists raised the banner against discrimination.

They have been among the first to advocate the shop steward system, which is today the life-blood of most major unions. Communists were the first to raise the demand for unemployment insurance. Communists never put a private claim upon those policies. If others took them up and gave broader scope to their application, no one was happier and more cooperative than the Communists.

So as we look back and draw the lesson, we can also conceive of the significance that the work and thought of the Communists will have in coming days. The trade unionist who doesn't feel his way from day to day (as PM does) but wants to see ahead, will watch and study the work of the Communist convention and will not miss the Madison Square Garden meeting next Tuesday when Browder will give it all in a nutshell.

Facts for Victory

By LABOR RESEARCH ASSN.

Frequent items on the postwar speculations of government and business economists appear almost daily in the press. Some predict a future that will be much like the years after the last war, with wage adjustments downward, widespread unemployment, liquidation of labor's gains, business "normalcy." A few see the hope and promise of new factors in the world situation and forecast an important role for government in helping to utilize fully American productive capacity. They look forward to the people winning real security and abundance, with this country a part of an international organization of free nations pledged to destroy the seeds of fascism.

That the war has brought about changes in the thinking of some of our leading economists is indicated by their recent writings. Take, for example, the views of Prof. Wesley C. Mitchell of Co-

lumbia University, dean of American economists and our foremost authority on the business cycle.

A year ago Dr. Mitchell was inclined to paint a rather dark picture of the years ahead. At that time in his annual report as director of the research staff of the National Bureau of Economic Research, he predicted that "if American business resumes its wonted way" and repeats the performance of the year following World War I by "grasping for the big profits promised by an enormous consumer demand at skyrocketing prices," it will bring on itself staggering losses and a disastrous recession.

If this happened, Prof. Mitchell argued, "the popular appeal of over-all economic planning will be enormously strengthened and the nation may decide to try that bold experiment, not immediately after the war but a few years later."

In other words, this country would have to go through the crushing experience of another crisis and depression before it would realize the necessity to plan for the economy as a whole and

not leave everything to the tender mercies of unregulated "free enterprise." It would be a bitter experience but it might teach us something we didn't learn from the last economic crisis or the war itself.

Now, however, after Teheran and the Baruch-Hancock report, Prof. Mitchell takes a somewhat brighter view of things. In his latest annual report for the National Bureau, "Economic Research and the Needs of the Times," he refers again to the fear of a postwar depression. This, he declares, "seems now to haunt the minds of many men of affairs, and to animate their postwar planning for high-level employment on the basis of free enterprise. So long as this feeling of responsibility and caution prevails, and the demand for goods continues large, a breakdown seems improbable."

But if all the postwar planning agencies of business should fail and if economic breakdown threatens again, Prof. Mitchell stresses more emphatically than before, the American people "will listen sympathetically to advo-

An Eminent Economist Explores New Horizons

cates of over-all governmental planning in peace as well as in war."

They will lend this sympathetic ear to over-all planning, says Prof. Mitchell, partly because of what he calls "the quite unexpected efficiency of the Soviet economy." For after the war, he believes, "critics of American institutions will stress the fact that the USSR after disastrous initial defeats, and after some of its most highly industrialized districts had been overrun by the Germans, was able to put into the field an enormous and well equipped army that expelled the invaders." Therefore, the Soviet socialist economy must have been pretty healthy to begin with.

It is evident from the neutral tone of Dr. Mitchell's observations that he is not a proponent of "over-all government planning." Nor is this the issue facing the American people in 1944. But these statements by the eminent economist do indicate a readiness to experiment and to explore new horizons. They indicate also that Russia-baiting among responsible economic thinkers is decidedly on the wane.



Ben Davis Tells Of Mexico Visit

"One of the great privileges of my life was to have attended the convention of the Mexican Communist Party last weekend," Communist Councilman Benjamin J. Davis, Jr., told us yesterday upon his return from a flying trip to Mexico.

"It is very inspiring to experience at first hand the common bond which unites peoples of the world," he said.

Special honor was paid the Communist Councilman because he represents outstanding Negro achievement and "they themselves—the Mexican people—are victims of racial theories." Over 3,500 people present at a great meeting of the Mexican Party in the government's Palace of Fine Arts rose to their feet and cheered Davis, especially when he mentioned Earl Browder, President Roosevelt or the advance toward freedom of American Negroes.

Dionisio Encina, young secretary of the party, made the main report at the convention, the councilman related.

"He is growing in stature among the Mexican people and has the respect of all democratic forces in the Mexican political arena. The party is becoming a major factor in developing national unity for the destruction of fascism and be-

WHAT'S ON

RATES: What's On section for the Daily and The Worker are 35c per line (8 words to a line—3 lines minimum).
DEADLINE: Daily at 12 Noon. For Sunday, Wednesday at 4 P.M.

Tonight Manhattan

COME and have a swell time at the party and dance given by the First Emma Lazarus Women's Club IWO at 1890 2nd Ave. Proceeds for gifts to the boys in the service.

RECRUITING PARTY—East Side Club—Dancing, refreshments, entertainment. Josh White, La Costa Brown, 5 Rutgers St. Adm.: 50c.

CASS CARR'S SAVOY BAND—Laura Duncan, singing classical blues; drink, dance, have fun. Soldiers and sailors and service-women, admission free. Aup.: General Aircraft Local 100, UFWA-CIO, Irving Plaza Ballroom—15th St. & Irving Place, at Union Square. Adm.: \$1.00, incl. tax.

JOIN OUR FUN at the Cultural and Folk Dance Group, 128 E. 16th St. Studio Party. Supper attractions, congenial atmosphere. 8:30 p.m.

SPRING SHINDIG Party tonight to welcome delegates and friends—dancing, fun and frolic. Room 210, 301 W. 72nd St. 8 p.m. Admission only 25c (a Spring bargain).

DANCE SING! & LAUGH! At TNT's Oala Spring Debut Dance. Earl Jones, popular baritone, 501 W. 14th St., corner Amsterdam. Club TNT, AYD. 8 p.m.

CONCERT AT JEFFERSON SCHOOL—The Jefferson String Ensemble will play a program of Bach and Mozart. If you haven't heard the Ensemble play chamber music the way it is played at the Jefferson School, this will be a new musical experience. Jefferson School of Social Science, 575 Sixth Ave. 7:30.

LATIN AMERICAN MUSICALS and Festival Sunday, May 21, at 9 p.m. 23 West 6th St., N.Y.C. Admission \$1.00, includes refreshments. Aup.: Institute for International Democracy.

SPRING DANCE, tomorrow at 8:30 p.m. Hotel Diplomat, 106 W. 43rd St. Music by Don Henri and His Electrons. Aup.: Taxi Workers Organizing Committee, TWU. Subscription \$1.15.

FOLK FESTIVAL celebrating "I Am an American Day." Speakers: Oona Walilab, co-author of "Roses of Mankind"; Max Yergan, Adam Clayton Powell. Songs by: Hall Johnson Choir, Chinese Peoples Chorus with Liu Liang-Mo; Aubrey Fanky, Finnish Women's Choir. Comedy: Jimmy Savo. Music: Teddy Wilson, Ben Webster, Sidney Catlett, Mary Lou Williams. Adm.: 50c. \$1.25, \$2.45. Golden Gate Ballroom, 142nd St. and Lenox Ave. Sunday—3 p.m.

THE MUSIC DIAL MAGAZINE presents its Jam Session at the Heat Wave Cabaret, 215 W. 145th St. Louis Metcalf and his Orchestra, with Lester Young, Syd Catlett, Ben Webster, Roy Eldridge and others. Sunday at 4 p.m.

Coming

THE FIGHTING TRADITION OF MORRIS U. SCHAPPEE and His Fellow-American Writers presented by the Ridgewood Schappee Defense Committee at Gottscheer Club House, 607 Fairview Ave., near Linden St., Ridgewood, Sunday, May 21, 2 p.m.



DIONISIO ENCINA

hind the Teheran agreements." President Manuel Avila Camacho sent his personal representative Antonio Villalobos, president of the Partido Revolucionario Mexicano (PRM—the government party)—who offered to work in unity with all democratic forces, including the Communist Party, for a solution of all Mexico's domestic and foreign problems.

URGES COOPERATION
Fidel Velasquez, head of the Mexican Confederation of Labor (CTM), said that the whole future of the labor movement depended on the closest cooperation of the CTM with the Communist Party," Davis reported.

The New York councilman expressed his joy in having met leaders of Communist organizations of other lands—Sen. Elias Lafferte of Chile, Sen. Augusto Duran of Colombia, Vicente Uribe, Communist Minister of Agriculture in Republican Spain, who were also present to greet the Mexican party.

"There are dangerous fascist forces in Mexico, particularly the Sinarquistas," Davis concluded. "They are trying to organize a coup on the Argentine model. But the democratic forces behind the Camacho government have made great strides toward unity."

"The Mexican people—I could see from my brief visit—desire to be masters of their fate, not helpless victims of larger forces in the world."

"All the people of Latin America are now making tremendous contributions toward a United Nations victory."

"But they can accomplish the maximum only if the United States discharges its central responsibility of maintaining friendly relations with them, promoting trade and industrialization, and helping to develop their democratic forces along the lines of the Teheran accord."

Serbs in U. S. Call Rally to Back FDR

PITTSBURGH, May 19.—The Serbian-American National Committee for the Re-election of Roosevelt will hold a national congress here June 17 and 18. The call stresses that "only the re-election of Roosevelt can guarantee a speedy end of the war, a just peace and freedom, employment, economic security, a better future."

The committee is headed by Michael Morinkovich. It appeals to all Serbian-Americans to "bury our mutual suspicions and animosities."

French Line in Italy Visited by DeGaulle

ALGIERS, May 19 (UP).—Gen. Charles DeGaulle, Gen. De Lattre de Tassigny and Commissioner of War Andrew Dietheim returned today from a 36-hour visit to the French line in Italy.

Welles Asks World Council

Sumner Welles, who was dropped out of the State Department last fall, repeated his demand for a council of the United Nations, Thursday night, asserting that world leadership could not be entrusted to the United States, Great Britain and the Soviet Union.

Welles spoke at a New York Times forum, and his prepared address was broadcast over WMCA. He expressed doubts that "world peace and world stability could be assured merely through a continuing world military alliance" of the "big three" and suggested that the promise of a postwar world organization, as contained in the Moscow declaration, was no more than "lip service."

In effect, he charged that the unity of the major powers, was becoming a "kind of dictatorship" over the destinies of the smaller nations, and even went so far as to suggest a comparison with Hitler's New Order.

SMALLER NATIONS

Pretending to defend the rights of the smaller nations, whom he wants organized on a regional basis and then represented in a world council, Welles further implied that the result of the present military alliance of the great powers could only be a "jockeying for individual influence and selfish advantage" unless a world council were organized now.

He connected the present Anglo-Soviet-American coalition with the concept of alliances that would lead to an imperialist race for other people's possessions.

He insisted that only a world council now could secure both victory and the peace, whereas after victory is won, permanent postwar organization would be impossible, recalling the post-Wilson experience.

Welles also made it appear that all political parties in the country are agreed on postwar cooperation, thereby serving to whitewash the actual stand of the Republican Party.

In effect, the speech was a thinly-veiled attack on the President's methods, and an expression of lack of confidence in the "big three."

Bonte Asks Ouster Of Vichyite Diplomats

ALGIERS, May 19.—Florimond Bonte, Communist deputy from Paris, spoke forcefully at the last session of the Provisional Consultative Assembly here on the urgency of close cooperation with the Soviet Union, and on the need to oust fifth columnists from all positions in North Africa and in the French diplomatic service.

Bonte also demanded government permission for Maurice Thorez, general secretary of the French Communist Party, to come to Algiers.

Many delegates at the Assembly, including Andre Philip, Commissioner of State, expressed agreement with Bonte. The Algiers press, however, gave the speech only a few lines.

"France must not have to beg for a place in the front ranks of the free nations," Bonte said. "She will win this place herself by her own redoubled war effort and by alliances made in the best and most healthy tradition of good French diplomacy."

Stressing the "supreme interest of France," he urged the pressing need for an alliance with the Soviet Union.

He emphasized the importance of forging a new diplomatic corps from which all Vichyites would be excluded.

"There must be no place here for fifth columnists," he argued, "nor for the 'Cagoulard' agents of the big trusts."

"FREE TERRITORY"

"French territory must be free territory for all Frenchmen, including the head of the Communist Party Maurice Thorez, who has inspired our national policy."

The Assembly, agreeing with the National Council of Resistance, which heads all patriot activities

inside France, stressed that the Provisional Government must be given its due as the representative of France at war.

The government was requested formally by the Assembly, after lengthy discussion, to make a better choice of diplomats, to conclude necessary practical agreements with the Allies to assure both French support for landing Allied troops and French national sovereignty and to see to it that armistice agreements will guarantee an end to aggressions and the integrity of France and her empire as part of international security.

Hull Outlines Postwar Trade

WASHINGTON, May 19 (UP).—Secretary of State Cordell Hull tonight outlined a four-point, postwar international trade program and called upon the United States to assume world leadership in formation of such a system, "primarily for reasons of pure, national self-interest."

Undersecretary of State Edward R. Stettinius, Jr., at a press conference earlier today, discounted the fears of some industrialists that promotion of industrialization in places like Latin America would hurt American farm trade. He was certain that anything this country could do to assist industrial expansion in Latin America would be of benefit to the United States economically and socially.



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The Sedition Trial

Dennis' Admissions
End 'Crackpot' Myth

by John Meldon

The shocking but revealing statements made in the Washington courtroom Thursday by Lawrence Dennis, one of the accused 29 seditionists, that a "community of interests" existed between Hitler and the defendants should put an end to all talk that the accused are simply a bunch of "crackpots."

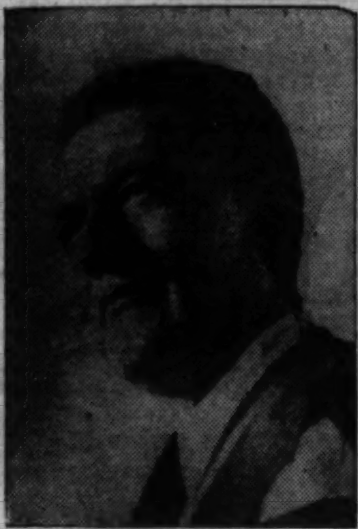
Dennis is the recognized "intellectual" leader of the defendants and the many native fascists of similar stripe still at large. He is anything but a "crackpot" as the Daily News and the Hearst press would have the public believe. These men and women, for all their calculated hell-raising in the courtroom, are fascist-minded haters of democracy, and they all had Dennis' confessed "community of interest" with Hitler.

REVEALS COURT STRATEGY

The declarations of Dennis were highly significant in three respects. One was that Dennis, while denying the government's charge that the defendants conspired directly with the Nazi hierarchy in Germany, nevertheless admitted to a "community of interest" with Hitler. Secondly, the utterances emphasized what the Daily Worker has warned of from the beginning—that the defendants intend to defy the government's charges, turn the courtroom into a sounding board for their Nazi philosophy to spread confusion and doubt against the Administration war effort.

Thirdly, Dennis would not have had the guts (no fascist has real guts) to take such a defiant pro-Hitler stand unless he felt powerful influences supporting him—from such people as Senators Wheeler, Nye, Reynolds, Bilbo and Taft, or Representatives Fish, Hoffman and Rankin.

Yesterday, the N. Y. Herald Trib-



LAWRENCE DENNIS

une, in a generally excellent editorial, warned that the accused seditionists are using the "Nazi tactic . . . the assumed martyrdom, the appeals to politics and prejudice, the confusion of issues and the perversion of legal process and constitutional guarantees to their own destructions." But after saying this unquestionable truth, the Tribune goes on to wonder "whether to regard this particular group as dangerous or merely ridiculous."

Fascist Lawrence Dennis' carefully phrased, coldly calculated all-out defense of Hitler's aims of world domination should be a warning to everyone as to the dangerous character of the group now on trial.

Communist Party Mourns Death
Of Anna Damon, ILD Leader

The Communist Party national committee yesterday mourned the passing of Anna Damon, devoted fighter for workers' civil liberties. Her life's work constitutes "a proud record in the cause of freedom and progress," said the message signed by William Z. Foster, chairman, and Earl Browder, secretary. "Her death is a great sorrow to us all."

TEXT OF STATEMENT

The death of Anna Damon is a hard blow to the Communist and labor movement and to her many friends.

Anna died after a protracted illness, in the throes of excruciating pain. Despite her sickness, she was preparing to attend the Communist national convention as a delegate, fully conscious of its historic significance for the future of the labor movement and of our country to whose welfare her whole life was given. The fatal illness deprived her of the last happiness of participating in its sessions.

Anna Damon was an exceptional woman and a superb human being. Her name has been associated with some of the greatest struggles for democracy and the labor movement of our country during the past quarter of a century—the campaign to free Tom Mooney, the Sacco-Vanzetti case, the historic Scottsboro cases, the campaign to free Earl Browder, and many others. For the past 11 years she held a highly responsible post in the International Labor Defense whose very name calls forth the memory of historic events.

She was a member of the Communist Party from its earliest years, and served for years as member of its national committee. Her activities bore the stamp of fine organizing talent and an outstanding executive ability. She made her contribution to the forging of the present-day trade union movement and especially to the historic achieve-

ments of the Negro liberation struggle—two accomplishments which also constitute a proud record in the cause of freedom and progress. Despite intense physical suffering, Anna strove bravely to fight off the realities of ill-health. She carried on with courage and great dignity to the end.

Her death is a great sorrow to all of us.

Furniture Workers
Endorse Fourth Term

A regular meeting of the Furniture Bedding Allied Trades Joint Council District 3, with delegates representing 12,000 organized furniture workers of the metropolitan area passed a resolution urging President Roosevelt to run for a fourth term.

"We feel that you are the best and most competent person to see us through to a complete victory

The Executive Committee and the entire membership of Concourse Lodge 581 IWO mourns the loss of our Sister

ANNA DAMON

and wish to express their deepest sympathy to the family of our deceased Sister.

TOWN HALL AUDIENCE BOOS DIGEST TIE-UP

The audience at this week's Town Hall of the Air program did not welcome the announcement that Readers Digest would hereafter sponsor the program, and expressed disapproval in no uncertain terms. They booed and hissed the announcement by moderator Denny while the program was still on, and continued a vigorous debate with Denny after the program, which concerned the polltax, off the air.

At the conclusion of the radio hour, Denny made the unpre-

cedented request that the audience remain seated. He then took them to task for hissing the contract announcement. Many then rose to denounce the tie-up with this reactionary publication. They expressed no confidence in the new set-up. They questioned the good faith of the deal. Not one person came to the defense of the Digest-Town Hall deal.

Denny ended by apologizing, in effect, for the Readers Digest sponsorship. His explanation: The program needed a commercial sponsor

to reverse the trend toward a decreasing number of stations in the hook-up.

Customs Appeals
Judge Nominated

WASHINGTON, May 19 (UP).—President Roosevelt today nominated Ambrose O'Connell, executive vice-chairman of the Democratic National Committee, to be a judge of the Court of Customs and Patent Appeals succeeding Judge Irvine L. Lenroot, who resigned recently.

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LET'S ALL BACK THE ATTACK
BUY MORE WAR BONDS

In This CORNER Everybody to His Own Taste, But I Liked the Guy

By Bill Mardo

My friend, he said. What sports feat gave you the biggest bang?

There's a new bang every day, I replied.

But I mean the biggest, the all-time bang, he protested. Oh. You mean the biggest, the all-time bang.

Yeah, he grunted.

And then I tried to explain how it was nigh impossible to choose one page from the ever-thickening volumes that combine to make Sportsdom the fascinating lore that it is.

Maybe you have a couple favorites, he insisted.

That's more like it, I enthused.

Let 'er rip!

Ninety-seventh St. and Madison Ave. was crowded that warm summer evening in 1930. We had no radio at home, and there I was glued to the big mahogany Philco on display in the corner radio shop.

Hanging onto every word, it was almost as good as actually being in the Long Island Bowl watching Jack Sharkey and Max Schmeling fight it out for Gene Tunney's relinquished heavyweight crown.

Sharkey was my first real sports idol. Oh, how I loved that guy. Every picture of him, every newspaper clipping that carried details of his training session right up to the fights themselves, cluttered up my room. Crazy kid that I was, every time Jack lost a fight, I cried right along with him. Every time Jack alibied reasons for his setback, I'd mimic him word for word in explaining to my friends just why the Boston job missed the boat.

And if you remember the turbulent Sharkey career, you'll correctly surmise that I did a hell of a lot of mimicking and crying during the almost-great fighter's time.

But that night in 1930, I prayed that it would be different; that Jack Sharkey would finally show everybody by capturing the crown. And for three rounds, it was in the bag. Masterful boxer that he was, Jack fought like a man possessed that night. Schmeling was taking a thorough thumping.

Crowded around that radio in the corner store lobby, surrounded by all the other kids from the block, I felt like a man vindicated.

Then it happened! Something I couldn't quite comprehend. A crazy commotion seemed to tear out from the radio. An excited broadcaster kept shouting something about Foul, Foul! And then as if in a daze, I heard the announcer introducing the "new heavyweight champion of the world, Max Schmeling."

And instinctively, my heart went out to Jack Sharkey as the fight commentator described my crestfallen, yet-eyed idol.

I remember playing hookey from school the next day, and spending a mournful afternoon in Central Park. Stacked high on my lap were newspaper photos of the fight, and somehow or other, the picture of a doubled-up Schmeling holding his groin while agonized pain pierced his features, didn't jibe with the exultant jabbering guy I heard accepting the fight announcer's congrats just a few moments after those cameras caught him on the floor.

What, no more favorites, the little guy asked.

I'm running outta space, I reminded him.

You mean to tell me that crummy fight gave you a bang, he incredulously inquired.

What could I say, except that I was nuts about that Sharkey guy?

Desperate Durocher Shifts Lineup of Sinking Dodgers

By PHIL GORDON

Say what you will about Durocher, when the guy becomes desperate he'll try anything once.

After them Bums dropped their third straight game out at Forbes Field on Thursday night,

the Flock pilot decided that he'd put catcher Mickey Owen at second base in place of Pat Ankermann, and Paul Waner would be moved over to fill Luis Olmo's spot in center field.

Olmo, the really talented fielder, fanned three times on Thursdays, and Leo the Lip was fit to be tied. Owen had been feeling his oats at second in regular workouts since the Dodgers hit Chicago.

In their last four setbacks, the desperate Dodgers have dropped ballgames in the final frame. Since their western trip was inaugurated, the Flock has lost seven and won three. In six of those affairs, they were in the lead before finally wilt-

ing. While it's becoming increasingly clear that Ankermann and Hart are nowhere near the calibre of players like Herman and Reese, why Durocher should suddenly get peeved at Olmo is difficult to understand. The Puerto Rican was boasting an 11-game batting streak until Thursday, which ain't hay.

And Owen's replacement, Bobby Bragan, did an about-face the very same day that Olmo couldn't find the ball, and banged out two-triples and a single.

According to writers travelling with the Dodgers, the Flatbushites are near a complete foldup. Already in seventh place, the club is

dropping games with a consistency that is truly alarming.

Dolly King Plays For Grays Tomorrow

Dolly King joins Josh Gibson, Buck Leonard and Co. at Ebbets Field tomorrow, when the Homestead Grays and the Newark Eagles meet in doubleheader attraction.

King, former LIU all-around star, is playing left field for the Grays, although he is also available as a substitute catcher for the mighty Josh Gibson.

Both clubs are considered two of the hottest-hitting outfits in the Negro National League, and Ebbets Field will probably resound with some loud base knocks before the smoke of battle is lifted.

Leaflets from Air Warn Romanians

By United Press

The Romanian newspaper Curentul, in an article reported by the OWI, said that during recent raids on Bucharest Allied planes had dropped many leaflets which advised the Romanians "to end the struggle if they wished to be spared reprisals."

Hear Earl Browder's momentous convention report at Madison Sq. Garden, Tuesday, May 23, at 7:30 p.m.

Yankees Lose Another to Browns, 6-5

Nelson Potter, ancient righthander, held the Yanks to six hits yesterday, winning a 6 to 5 victory for the surging Browns at Yankee Stadium. His opponent, Atley Donald, was tapped for ten hits before 7,463 ladies' day fans in the opening set-to of a four-game series.

Al Zarilla's homer gave the Browns a one-run lead in the first. They added two more in the second on hits by Mark Christman, and Ellis Clary, who scored on Myron Hayworth's sharp double to right.

The Yanks pounded four runs over in their half of the same inning. Lindell went to second when Byrnes mugged up his single to center. Milosevitch walked, and Garbark knocked in Lindy with a blow to left. Donald sacrificed and Stirnweiss forced Garbark at third, Milosevitch tallying. Bud Metheny then smashed his third homer of the year into the upper righthand tier—first ball to reach that stand in fair territory this year.

The Browns tied it in the sixth on Gene Moore's double. Levy tied it up in the Yank eighth with a homer and a single by Byrnes. Christman's homer to left clinched the game.

Games Today

AMERICAN LEAGUE

St. Louis at Yankee Stadium (2:30). Chicago at Boston.

Cleveland at Philadelphia.

Detroit at Washington (night).

NATIONAL LEAGUE

New York at St. Louis (night).

Brooklyn at Cincinnati.

Philadelphia at Pittsburgh.

Boston at Chicago.

RADIO

11 A.M. TO NOON

11:00-WEAF—Andy Devine Dude Ranch
WOR—News; Talk; Music
WJZ—On Stage, Everybody
WABC—News; Warren Swency
WMCA—News; Recorded Music
11:25-WABC—Let's Pretend
11:30-WEAF—Lighted Windows
WOR—Hello Mom
WJZ—Land of the Lost
WABC—Fashions in Rations

NOON TO 2 P.M.

12:00-WEAF—News; Consumer Time
WOR—Man on the Farm
WJZ—Blue Playhouse
WABC—Theatre of Today
WQXR—Gardening for Victory—Dr. R. H. White-Stevens
12:25-WJZ—News; Farm-Home Hour
12:30-WEAF—Atlantic Spotlight
WOR—News; Juke Box
WABC—Stars Over Hollywood
WMCA—Jerry Lawrence Records
1:00-WEAF—Here's to Youth
WOR—Castle Orchestra
WJZ—Report From London
WABC—Grand Central Station
1:15-WJZ—Trans-Atlantic Quiz
WMCA—Health Talk
1:30-WEAF—The Baxters
WOR—Lopez Orchestra
WJZ—Swing Shift Preludes
WABC—Country Journal
1:45-WEAF—John McVane, News

2 P.M. TO 6 P.M.

2:00-WEAF—Gallicchio Orchestra
WOR—McIntyre Orchestra
WJZ—Women in Blue
WABC—Of Men and Books
2:30-WEAF—Sports—Grantland Rice
WOR—News; Music
WJZ—Sherwood Orchestra
WABC—Pan-American Music
3:00-WEAF—Variety Musicale
WOR—This Is Halloran
WJZ—Language Quiz
WABC—Detroit Musicale
3:30-WEAF—Pharmacia Orchestra
WOR—Jack Bundy's Carnival
WJZ—Minstrel Show
WABC—Visiting Hour
3:45-WABC—Front-Page Farrell
4:00-WEAF—Withers Stakes, Belmont
WOR—News Reports
WJZ—Heldt Orchestra
WABC—Report From London
4:15-WEAF—Rupert Hughes, News
WOR—WABC—Racing at Belmont
4:30-WEAF—Doctors at War
WOR—Show Shop
WABC—Col. Stoppnagle Show
5:30-WEAF—Your America
WOR—Uncle Don
WJZ—News; Concert Orchestra
WABC—Corliss Archer
5:15-WOR—Carle Orchestra
WMCA—Monica Lewis, Songs
5:30-WEAF—Coast Searching, News
WABC—Mother and Dad
WQXR—American Artists Series
5:45-WEAF—Curt Massey, Songs
WOR—Eleanor King-Talk
WJZ—Nancy Martin, Songs

6 P.M. TO 9 P.M.

6:00-WEAF—News Reports
WOR—Sydney Moseley, News
WJZ—News; John B. Kennedy
WABC—Quincy Howe, News
WMCA—News; Monica Lewis, Songs
6:15-WEAF—Hollywood Theatre

Balanced Browns May Take A. L. Pennant

By C. E. DEXTER

When Luke Sewell, the handsomest manager in the majors, dropped into Yankee Stadium yesterday afternoon, he said: "I haven't seen anything outstanding among the clubs we've played, and we've played them all but the Yankees."

When Luke left the Stadium as the shades of evening fell, he still had seen nothing outstanding. For the Browns moved into first place over the prone bodies of Joe McCarthy's wartime babies, winning a 6 to 5 victory marked by peculiar pitching and peculiar fielding.

Atley Donald supplied the pitching, including two home run balls socked out of the park by two inconsequential St. Louis batters named Al Zarilla and Mark Christman. The fielding was dullish on the Yankee side, and not good enough hitting—only six hits off the screwball slants of Nelson Potter—told the sad tale.

In other words, as Luke Sewell wisely said: "This American League race is going to be a scramble. The teams will be all mixed up until hot weather levels them off. Right now only five games separate first place from last."

What has Sewell got on his Browns, who won nine straight, then let down and now are back on top again?

Well, they have four dandy players in the infield. George McQuinn didn't play yesterday because of a stiff neck, but George has been one of the game's best first sackers for some years. Don Guttridge was always a speed demon—he leads the league in a tie with George Stirnweiss on stolen bases.

and he can play second. Vernon Stephens is, in my opinion, the best all around shortstop since Glenn Wright—yesterday he caught 'em all over the lot. And Christman will do at third.

The outfield, with Mike Kreevich playing centerfield, is standard for this war year—Milt Byrnes in left and Zarilla the Gorilla in right. Catching O.K., pitching, spear-headed by Jack Kramer, who goes today, better than fair.

Our Yanks may settle down after Uncle Joe McCarthy gets talking to them. In the meantime, if you enjoy seeing their heads bashed in, it may happen again today. Walt Dubiel faces Kramer. First place is at stake.

Sailor Schoolboy Rowe Stars for Great Lakes

GREAT LAKES, Ill.—In the first of their games this season against major league opposition, Lt.-Comdr. Mickey Cochrane's Great Lakes Naval Training Center team defeated the Phillies, 3 to 1, May 9, on the Bluejackets' diamond. Ten thousand tars saw the game.

The pay-off punch against the Phillies was provided by their pitching star of 1943—Schoolboy Rowe. Playing right field for the Sailors, Rowe blasted a two-run homer in the seventh inning.

Radio Concerts

5:30-6:30 P.M. WNYC (also FM)—Victory Concert at the Public Library, by Helen Teschner Tass, violinist, and Ernest Victor Wolff, pianist.
5:30-6 P.M. WQXR—Milton Katims, violinist.
6-6:55 P.M. WLIE—Great Classics

7-8 P.M. WNYC (also FM)—Masterwork Hour
7:30-8 P.M. WJZ—Rose Hampton, soprano
8-9 P.M. WQXR (also FM)—Symphony Hall
8:30-9:30 P.M. WJZ—Boston Pops Orchestra

9 P.M. TO MIDNIGHT

9:00-WEAF—National Barn Dance
WOR—Operetta Music
WABC—Hit Parade
9:30-WEAF—Can You Top This?
WJZ—Spotlight Band
WMCA—Swing Session
9:45-WABC—Saturday Serenade
9:55-WJZ—Quick Quiz
10:00-WEAF—Barry Wood, Songs
WOR—Royal Gumnastics, News
WJZ—Lombardo Orchestra
10:15-WOR—True Detective Stories
WABC—Correction Please—Quiz
WMCA—Palestine Flower Week
10:30-WEAF—Grand Ole Opry, Variety
WJZ—Army Service Forces—Drama
WMCA—Frank Kingdom, News
10:45-WOR—Leo Cherne, News
WABC—To Be Announced
WMCA—Marine Corps Program
11:00-WEAF, WOR—News; Music
WJZ—WABC—News; Music
11:05-WJZ—Bruno Shaw, News
11:15-WEAF—American String Quartet
WJZ—Hillbilly Band
11:30-WEAF—I Sustain the Wings
WABC—Casey—Photographer
12:00-WEAF, WJZ—News; Music
WABC, WMCA—News; Music

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(Brooklyn)
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(Brooklyn)
17TH, 712 E. 3 rooms, furnished. Flatbush Station, June 1-Sept. 8. 15 minutes to Rockaway or Brighton, MA. 8-4063, 6:30 to 9:30 p.m.

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Literary Lookout

Writer's War Board Spoke Out Against
Suppression of 'The Races of Mankind'

By Samuel Putnam

This column is extremely pleased to note that the Writers' War Board has come out strongly against the recent suppression of the pamphlet, "The Races of Mankind," by the military authorities, an action that was largely due to Chairman May of the House Military Affairs Committee. The last issue of the "Writers' War Board Report," which is sent out by way of conveying helpful suggestions to writers who want to aid in winning the war, has the following to say on the subject:

"This pamphlet, written by two anthropologists and published by a group of educators, has been given a raw deal.

"The theme of the pamphlet is the equality of man; its material is the simple, scientific statement that all men share the same blood-types, bone-structure, and brain-matter. These facts should be made known to every member of our armed forces. For this purpose, the pamphlet was submitted to the USO, which refused to distribute it to its reading rooms, although the USO states its purpose to be that of serving the educational, spiritual and recreational needs of our troops.

YMCA DISTRIBUTED IT

"The YMCA accepted the pamphlet and distributed 50,000 copies to the YMCA reading rooms. Some of these reading rooms were in USO centers run by the YMCA. The USO forced the YMCA to withdraw the pamphlet. Chester Barnard, president of the USO, gave as his reason for this censorship his belief that distribution of 'The Races of Mankind' would be a political effort."

"Meanwhile, when the pamphlet was made available to Army Orientation Officers, Representative May of Kentucky, Chairman of the House Military Affairs Committee, denounced this distribution and ordered it stopped. We believe that the removal of the pamphlet from the hands of the Orientation Officers is a positive act aiding the cause of fascism. (Our emphasis—S.P.) We believe that you cannot fight the 'master race' theory abroad and cater to it at home. (Our emphasis again.)

"Many Americans have protested this action in letters to their local papers. This is a good fight in which to engage your pen." (Emphasis that of the WWB.)

In addition to Representative May, it would seem that Mr. Barnard and the heads of the USO likewise have quite a little explaining to do.

The YMCA, on the other hand, deserves a warm commendation.

Meanwhile, that admonition of the WWB to "engage your pen," while in this case directed to professional writers, may also very well apply to their reader-audience as well. There cannot be too many letters, too loud a protest, on so vital a subject as this.

"BELL FOR ADANO"

Incidentally, while we are speaking of the WWB, you may be interested in knowing that topping their list of recommended war books is John Hersey's "A Bell for Adano."

Adano," which is described as "the finest novel yet written about this war, a simple, funny, profoundly moving and desperately earnest story of a small Sicilian town under American occupation. It dramatizes superbly the fundamental issues of the world conflict between democracy and totalitarianism."

Personally, we are inclined to feel that the writer of this notice has rather let his superlatives run away with him. "A Bell for Adano" is a pretty good story, though by no means perfect. But however good it may be, it certainly is not "the finest novel yet written about this war"—not when we think of "The Fall of Paris," "The Edge of the Sword," "The Rainbow," and a few others.

Perhaps what was meant was, the finest American novel yet to come out of the war.

MUSIC

The Yiddish Culture Chorus

By LOUIS KANTOROVSKY

A Jubilee Concert celebrating Vladimir Heifetz's tenth year as the conductor of the Yiddish Culture Chorus was given in Town Hall on Saturday evening, May 13. In honor

of Mr. Heifetz, all the choral works presented were his original compositions or his arrangements of Yiddish folk songs. An instrumental interlude by Mr. Benar Heifetz, cellist, included the Kol Nidrei by Max Bruch. Mr. Mischa Mischakoff, violinist, played the first movement of the Mendelssohn Concerto and Schubert's Ave Maria as a well deserved encore.

Di Yiddische Legende, a cantata for violin, harp, vocal soloists and chorus, with words by the Hebrew poet Bialik, and the many other choral works of smaller dimension proved Mr. Heifetz to be a composer of serious talent and accomplishment.

The chorus enjoyed their work and sang well under the capable leadership of Mr. Heifetz. Di Lache Polke which ended the concert was so effectively done that the audience demanded its repetition. The program began with folk songs that reflected Jewish life in European ghettos, songs of work, sadness and joy and included A Prayer for the

Entertaining the G.I.'s



This all-Negro entertainment unit is now entertaining American servicemen at bases in New Caledonia under the banner of USO-Camp Shows. They give two shows a night, and go over big with the G.I.'s in that area. An Army band accompanies them wherever they play. The above picture was taken in the Camps Shows offices at 8 West 40 St., N.Y.C., before the unit left for overseas—destination unknown. Left to right are: Julie Gardner, accordionist from sweet to swing; Kenneth Spencer, singer of Cafe Society and Bataan fame; Ann Lewis, blues singer; and the comedy team of Ferdie and Flo.

Stettinius to Speak On 'Words at War'

Edward R. Stettinius, Jr., Under Secretary of State, will be heard on the air for the first time since his return from London during the broadcast of his book, Lend-Lease, on NBC's Words At War series Tuesday, May 23 (11:30 p.m., EWT).

Saturday Calendar

MUSIC
Victory Concert, New York Public Library, 5:30 p.m. Helen Tschner Tas, violin; Ernst Victor Wolff, piano.

OPERA
La Forza del Destino, Salmaggl Opera, Brooklyn Academy, 8:30 p.m.

DANCE
Ballet Theatre, Metropolitan Opera House, (Mat.) Swan Lake, Fair at Sorochinsk, Barn Dance, (Eve.) Romeo and Juliet, Fancy Free, Bolero, Fair at Sorochinsk.

Howard Fast at Forum

Howard Fast, author of Citizen Tom Paine and E. Louise Mally, author of the recent novel The Mocking Bird Is Singing will participate in a forum on the historical novel to be held at the Jefferson School, 575 Sixth Ave. this Sunday evening, May 21.

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FULTON Theat., 46th St. W. of 5'way. Cl. 6-5260

Union Local Holds Birthday Dance

The General Aircraft Local No. 106, UPWA is celebrating the second anniversary of the union Saturday, May 20, at a dance which is being held at Irving Plaza Ballroom. Cass Carr's popular Savoy Band and Laura Duncan singing classical blues are the attractions.

The admission is \$1.00 including tax. Servicemen and women will be admitted free.

Josh White, Laura Duncan in Garden Program Tuesday Evening at 7:30 O'clock

Late Bulletins

WLB OK's Portal Mine Pay

WASHINGTON, May 19 (UP).—The War Labor Board tonight approved the portal-to-portal wage contract between the United Mine Workers and 70 percent of the bituminous coal industry, providing at least a partial solution to the most bitter controversy ever before the board.

Vichy Officials Fleeing

LONDON, May 19 (UP).—A Tass dispatch broadcast by the Moscow radio said that prominent Vichy officials, fearful of being trapped by an Allied drive in the west, were fleeing western France despite warnings by chief of government Pierre Laval for them to remain at their posts "regardless of circumstances."

Quisling Rounds Up Youth

LONDON, May 19 (UP).—Norwegian quarters reported that the Nazi puppet, Maj. Vidkun Quisling, had called up 45,000 to 60,000 young Norwegians for "work of national importance" and they believed open warfare with the Germans might result.

(The London radio reported violent street fighting broke out Thursday in Norway following the calling up of three age groups. Quisling and German troops quelled the disturbances.)

Bomb Wake for Second Day

PEARL HARBOR, May 19 (UP).—Striking for the second time in 48 hours against tiny Wake Island, Liberator bombers of the 7th Army Air Force bombed Peale Island and Heel Point Wednesday, carrying out their attacks against intensive Japanese anti-aircraft fire. Adm. Chester W. Nimitz announced today.

One of the four-motored Liberators, staging the 23d American raid of the war on the former American outpost, was shot down, the Pacific Fleet announcement said.

YANKS, BROOKLYN LOSE, GIANTS WIN

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St. Louis	120 101 010—6 10 2	Boston	025 200 000—4 7 0
New York	040 000 010—5 6 2	St. Louis	010 000 200—3 9 0
Potter and Hayworth; Donald, Turner and Garbark.		Tobin and Masi; M. Cooper, Gumbert (3), Wilks (8) and W. Cooper.	
Cleveland	130 041 000—9 17 2	Brooklyn	001 001 000—2 8 1
Philadelphia	000 000 100—1 9 2	Pittsburgh	100 000 40x—5 6 1
Smith and McDonnell; Hamlin, Christopher (2), Scheib (6) and Hayes.		Webber, Ostermuller (7), Lohrman (7) and Bragan; Sewell and Camelli, Davis (8).	
Chicago	020 000 000 000—2 13 2	New York	010 100 000—2 6 2
Boston	010 000 001 001—3 13 1	Chicago	000 000 30x—3 3 1
Lopat, Maltzberger (9) and Turner; Hausmann, Ryba (10) and Partee, Wagner (10).		Melton, Adams (7) and Lombardi; Hanyzewski, Vandenberg (2) and Holm, Kreitner (8).	

British Escort Huge Convoy To USSR, Sink 2 Nazi Subs

WITH THE BRITISH FLEET IN NORTHERN WATERS (Delayed) (UP).—A British naval force, escorting one of the two largest convoys ever sent to the Soviet Union, recently sank two German submarines, probably sank two more and damaged others in a blow against the Nazi undersea fleet in the Arctic.

The entire convoy of American, British and Dutch merchant ships, carrying 250,000 tons of tanks, guns, planes and food for the Soviet people, got through without loss after a series of battles fought in weather so cold that ice had to be chipped from the flight decks of escort carriers before the planes could take off.

One British destroyer, the Mah-ratta, was sunk by torpedo on the outward trip and her captain and all but a few of her crew lost in the black, stormy night.

TAKE U-BOAT SEAMEN

Carrier-based bombers time and again swept down on the U-boats, breaking up their attacks on the massive convoy. In all, 30 Germans were taken prisoners.

Destroyers, battling at times in icy storms, under the northern lights, or in sheer blackness, blasted a path open for the convoy with depth charges.

Carrier pilots flying American

Wildcat fighters drove off German scout planes, damaging two of them without loss to themselves.

In "Torpedo Alley" around the northern tip of Norway, where we encountered the enemy, the temperature was near zero. A man could live in such waters only a few minutes and British crewmen from the torpedoed Mah-ratta died before help could reach them.

Sergei Thanked U. S. for Aid

A message of thanks for United States aid to Soviet war victims was radioed to this country by Metropolitan Sergei, Patriarch of All Russia, just a few days before he died in Moscow on May 15. It was disclosed yesterday by Russian War Relief, member agency of the National War Fund.

The late head of the Russian Orthodox Church, who died at the age of 77 of a brain hemorrhage, invoked divine blessings on Americans who, through Russian War Relief, are sharing their clothing with families in Russia's recaptured areas.

The Russian church leader, in this last message to the people of the United States, also expressed the hope that out of their common suffering would come an enduring friendship and a happy future for the Soviet and American peoples.

Daily Worker



Seizure of Gaeta, and the earlier capture of Formia have outflanked Nazi mountain fortifications as the Allied advance in Italy continues. Americans and French gained also in the Esperia sector yesterday, while British forces slashed forward in the Cassino area and Polish troops drove to a mile and a half from Piedimonte. Story on page 3.

The Veteran Commander

THE GERMAN LINES IN ITALY

THREE German strong points have fallen to Allied troops in Italy. It is reported that "the Gustav Line has ceased to exist." The Germans are also reported to have been "completely outmaneuvered." Now this does not quite sound right to us because it is difficult to talk of "maneuvering" on a front where there is no space to maneuver in. It would be more correct to say that Polish, British, French and American troops have carried strong fortifications by a bold and successful frontal assault and that the Germans have lost the advanced posts of their main zone of resistance.

However, with the capture of Formia by American troops a "tough problem" arises: it had been said repeatedly that Formia was the southern anchor of the "Hitler Line." Now, with Formia captured, the simple reader of newspapers might infer the "Hitler Line" has been cracked. However, he is being told simultaneously (and officially) that from now on "progress will be much slower." The question naturally arises in the reader's mind: WHAT is going to slow us up now that the famous "Hitler Line" has been cracked? So the map-makers perform a sleight-of-hand trick and simply move the "Hitler Line" back 15 miles on their maps (please study N. Y. Times maps on page 2 on Thursday, May 18, and on page 5 on Friday, May 19). At first that "line" was anchored on Formia, now it is anchored on Terracina. Pretty soon it will move back to Avezzano, Frosinone and the Pontine Marshes where it really belongs (if it exists at all as a FIXED CONTINUOUS "LINE"). Quite an "elastic" line, we would venture to say.

All this is brought out here to show how certain people try to fool the public by concealing the fact that the Italian

campaign is a hard job, requiring sacrifices and great human strain, but incapable of yielding strategic results in its present form because no strategic breakthrough is possible in a place where there is no operational space, and consequently no large scale maneuver is possible either.

ALLIED AIR FORCES have resumed their attacks against Europe, blasting Ploesti, Nish and Belgrade, as well as "troop concentrations" in France and "military targets" in Belgium.

Meanwhile the Soviet Air Force attacked Minsk, Baranovichi and Kholm, key junctions on the two trunk lines leading to Warsaw (from the northeast and the southeast).

Merrill's Marauders (these Marauders are MEN, not PLANES) have seized the Myitkyina airdrome after a surprise wheeling movement around the town of the same name, topping a 20-day forced march through the jungle. This is a brilliant success. It actually seals the fate of Myitkyina and opens the way for a junction of Allied troops of Stilwell, Merrill and the Chindits with the Chinese troops advancing west of the Salween toward Myitkyina.

Chinese troops continue to resist stubbornly in Loyang, into which a 25-mile wide corridor appears to be still open. It begins to look as if the Chinese Loyang group might escape encirclement and thus uphold the Chinese reputation for elusiveness.

General MacArthur's troops jumped 125 miles amphibiously to occupy the Wakde islands near the coast of New Guinea. The airdromes captured there are only 1,000 miles from the Philippines.

PINKY RANKIN

